



## FRESHERS WEEK

A survival guide for new students

Life & Times, pages 7-9



## WHAT HOPE FOR THE POOR?

Matthew Parris on the underclass

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## MYSTERY OF HISTORY

DNA tests and the Wild West

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## Ministers snub 2-speed Europe

# Lamont cools war of words with Germany

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

BRITAIN was still at odds with its key EC partners last night when finance ministers refused to back Norman Lamont's calls for a reform of the European exchange-rate mechanism.

At the end of an acrimonious five-hour meeting the ministers declared that they did not want to see a two-speed European economy. But it was clear that the divisions over the future of Europe were far from healed.

In an attempt to end Britain's war of words with Germany over the Government's handling of the sterling crisis and the future of the Maastricht treaty, Mr Lamont apologised to the Germans. He told a news conference: "There has been a lot of controversy. We have had our

differences and I am sorry if it has caused offence."

Earlier Germany's finance minister, Horst Koehler, launched a stinging attack on British attempts to blame Germany for the sterling crisis. He made it clear that the German government and the Bundesbank were fed up with taking the blame for the chaos in the ERM. He accused Britain of "wild accusations and scape-goating".

German officials said that press reports linking the attitude of the Bundesbank with the Nazis had been thoroughly offensive. There was also anger over remarks made by British Cabinet ministers about Germany's role in supporting the French franc only a few days after watching sterling flounder.

In a statement issued after their meeting in Brussels, the ministers said: "Everyone present emphasised their opposition to the concept of a two-speed Europe and reiterated that the object of the Community was to proceed together."

Ministers, who had met under the chairmanship of Mr Lamont, also issued a robust affirmation of their faith in the European Monetary System which is at odds with the calls for reform which have been made both by the prime minister and Mr Lamont. The EMS, the statement said, is "a key factor of economic stability and prosperity in Europe."

But a deep rift remained between the Chancellor and his 11 fellow finance ministers over where responsibility lay for the financial turmoil which recently saw the pound taken out of the ERM.

Several other ministers made clear their governments' view that the ERM might be further destabilised by attacks on its operations or squabbles between Britain and Germany and that Britain was the author of its own financial misfortunes.

"We're not here to discuss the failure of the European Monetary System," said one EC diplomat. Mr Lamont, said that Britain had not been isolated at the meeting, adding that other governments such as Spain and Italy shared

Britain's views. "This is not how the system is supposed to work," he said. "We're not blaming the Bundesbank like some countries I could mention. The ERM is fine for us," said an Italian official - who was nevertheless unable to say when the Italian lira would re-enter the ERM.

In a further attempt to heal divisions over the future shape of Europe, John Major flies to Paris to day for talks with President Mitterrand and an assurance that Britain would not be isolated by a Franco-German axis. He will also meet Paul Schluter, Denmark's prime minister, hoping to reach a compromise that he can present to his backbenchers.

Denmark yesterday affirmed its commitment to a one-speed Europe. The Danish economy minister, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, said: "I would like to stress that whatever happens it is the policy of the Danish government to participate in the hard core of the ERM, even if it is made harder."

Douglas Hurd, foreign secretary, faces a tough time when he addresses the conference in the debate on Europe. The EC ministers' statement agreed that "reflection and analysis" on the operation of the ERM was necessary. Mr Lamont made clear that the Birmingham summit on October 16 would not take or announce any decisions which might affect international money markets.

Mr Christopherson, EC commissioner for finance and clearly reflecting the views of a majority which place present and future faith in the ERM, said that officials would be reflecting on "technicalities rather than the principles of the ERM". Some governments believe that the ERM will be safer from attacks on weak currencies if Maastricht looks set for ratification.

During an earlier discussion of the EC budget, six ministers questioned the British rebate, under which half of Britain's contribution to EC funds is returned.

Split confirmed page 2  
Leading article, page 15

## Irish interest rates up

IRELAND raised its key lending rates by three points yesterday in an effort to stabilise the punt, which was under severe attack from speculators amid continued rumours of a two-tier monetary system in Europe.

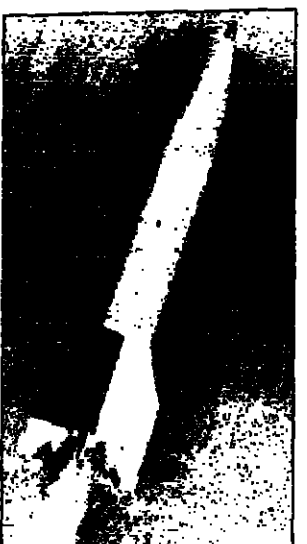
Albert Reynolds, the prime minister, ruled out a devaluation, insisting that Ireland wanted to be in the first division of Europe.

In Britain, expectations of a further cut in base rates sent sterling two pennings down at DM2.5103.

Defending the punt, page 19  
Comment, page 23

## Outrage halts celebration to honour 50th birthday of Hitler's V2 rocket

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN



Dubious honour: the German wonder weapon

THE celebrations commemorating the 50th anniversary of Germany's notorious V2 rocket have been called off after a barrage of criticism from the country's politicians and fierce opposition from Britain.

Many senior German politicians described the plan as tasteless and irreverent, and with relations between Britain and Germany strained over the future of Europe, the government persuaded the German Aerospace Industry Federation to abandon the celebrations.

The event was being held to mark what was billed as "man's first step into space". The V2's inventor, Werner von Braun, led the US space

programme after the second world war.

But in Britain, where the V2 spread terror and killed thousands of civilians, anger over the commemoration matched that in Germany provoked by the unveiling of the "Bomber" Harris statue. Yesterday, Bob Ogley, author of *Doodlebug and Rocket*, said the fact that the Germans had even considered celebrating the anniversary was absolutely appalling. "Werner von Braun might have been interested in space exploration, but it was he who went to Hitler and told him this was a weapon capable of destroying the British."

Over the weekend, Erich Riedl, the junior economics minister who was to be guest

of honour but who reluctantly withdrew, described the British reaction as "absurd hysteria". He was also angry at the German reaction.

Albrecht Müller, of the opposition Social Democrats, referring to the concentration camp inmates who died making the V2, said: "Considering 20,000 forced labourers were abused to death and considering the number of victims of this weapon, there is absolutely no reason to celebrate."

However, Karl Dersch, president of the aerospace federation, regretted that Germany's scientific achievements could not be honoured. "This achievement remains the foundation for worldwide space technology," he said.

## Mini-Europe on Rhine may leave Britain behind

AS European Community states rounded on Britain at yesterday's meeting of finance ministers, there were growing signs that France and Germany may be moving toward a "mini-Europe on the Rhine", leaving Britain on the sidelines.

All parties in the German coalition led by Chancellor Kohl went out of their way yesterday to underline the statement by the finance ministers and reject the concept of a "two-speed Europe", but German press reports suggested that contingency plans for a mini-monetary union centred on the mark and the franc were being drawn up by Paris and Bonn.

The Franco-German axis was further reinforced last

night by the launching of the first television service to serve both countries, creating a "common television space".

The centrepiece of yesterday's broadcast was Wim Wenders' 1987 Franco-German film *Wings of Desire*.

German commentators maintained that reports of a "mini-Europe" emanated from Brussels rather than Paris or Bonn and were intended to put pressure on John Major as EC chairman to speed up the ratification of Maastricht.

Elisabeth Guigou, the French Minister for European Affairs, said France could not wait indefinitely for the UK to ratify the treaty.

Rhine mini-Europe, page 13

## ON OTHER PAGES

### Drugs ring smashed

More than 200 people have been held by police in five countries who believe they have smashed a vast drugs network involving Colombian traffickers and the Mafia. In London, cocaine worth £7 million was seized when two Americans were arrested near Victoria. About £1.75 million in cash was also uncovered in a lock-up garage. Page 3

### Killers freed

Murderers of all races were released under President de Klerk's amnesty for political prisoners, most of them unrepentant. The 150 freed so far include a Coloured man who killed three white women when he bombed a café, a white man who shot six blacks and an Indian in the heart of Pretoria, and assassins from the ANC's armed wing. Another 400 are expected to be released. Page 12

### Paras charged

Six soldiers from The Parachute Regiment are to face criminal charges arising from several days of disturbances in Coalisland, Co Tyrone after one of their colleagues was maimed by an IRA bomb. Page 2

### Iliescu wins

President Iliescu of Romania looked set to retain power as early election results showed him comfortably beating Emil Constantinescu. Page 13

## 35 Britons killed in Himalayan air crash

By Lin Jenkins



Andrew Wilkins, his wife Helen and their children Hannah, (back), Simeon and Naomi

A MISSIONARY couple and their three children were among up to 35 Britons on board a Pakistan Airways 300 which crashed in the Himalayas on approach to Kathmandu airport yesterday, with the loss of all 167 people on board. Rescuers reported no trace of survivors at the crash site, ten miles south of Nepal's capital.

Flight PK268, a regular Pakistan International Airlines service from Karachi, lost contact with Kathmandu airport six minutes before landing. The crew gave no indication of any difficulties. Nageendra Prasad Ghimire, deputy airport manager, said there was no apparent explanation. "Everything was normal," he said. Local people reported hearing a loud explosion. Those first at the scene found the wreckage in flames with debris scattered over a wide area. Rescue workers then cordoned off the area. Nepal radio said the bodies of victims would be handed over to relatives today.

The crash was the second in Nepal in two months. On July 31, a Thai Airways Airbus crashed, killing all 113 on board.

Among the dead Britons were Andrew Wilkins, 38, his pregnant wife Helen, 36, and their children Hannah, ten, Naomi, eight, and Simeon, six. Mr Wilkins worked on Christian relief projects. The family, who had spent three years in Nepal, were returning for another three years from the All Nations Christian College, near Ware, Hertfordshire, Britain's second-largest missionary training college. A fourth child was due in March.

Another Briton feared dead was Sharon Duhig, 28, a ski instructor, on a trip to climb to the base camp of Mount Everest. Reg Duhig, her father, of Hillingdon, Middlesex, said: "She had planned to trek for a month and then go to the base camp. It was a lifelong dream."

Mr Duhig, who works at Heathrow airport, said his daughter had been travelling with a friend whom she had met while working in Austria during the summer. It was not known if he was on the flight.

Two men working for travel firm Encounter Overland were also on the plane. Three other Britons on the flight were believed to have booked through a north London travel company Bridge the World.

Mr Wilkins, a consultant engineer and geologist, was seconded from the London-based charity Interserve, which provides about 70 personnel to the United Mission to Nepal. He

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VACHERON CONSTANTIN  
Géneve, since 1755

Asprey

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## Palace and Treasury discuss cutting royal payments

By ALAN HAMILTON

BUCKINGHAM Palace and Treasury officials are examining the possibility of changes in the way the royal family is funded from the public purse, to streamline the whole apparatus of monarchy and to head off criticism of waste and unearned privilege.

Two important avenues being considered are a severe reduction in the Civil List to exclude minor members of the royal family who receive an annual grant to cover the cost of their public duties, and an annual payment by the Queen from her private resources in lieu of income tax.

Both the palace and

Downing Street refuse to discuss the issue, but it is clear that talks are still at an early and exploratory stage, with no parliamentary timetable yet set for changes, contrary to some reports.

The initiative for change has come from the Queen herself, who is in many ways more politically astute than many politicians. No current or recent Tory prime minister, nor any loyal opposition leader, would contemplate approaching the monarch with a request to pay tax or a suggestion that the regal equivalent of social security payments be reduced.

John Major is believed to have discussed the financial

question with the Queen during his audience at Balmoral earlier this month, but as before a Tory prime minister is said to have an open mind on any changes to the system. In spite of some agitation from his backbenchers, he is content to leave the initiative to the palace.

It is also clear that the Queen has not been panicked into action by this summer's torrent of bad publicity in the tabloid press about the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of York. Financing the crown, which costs the taxpayer an estimated £50 million a year, from the Civil List to repairs to the royal yacht *Britannia*, has been the subject of quiet

debate since Margaret Thatcher engineered a ten-year Civil List deal in 1990 and the palace brought in Michael Peat, a City accountant, to balance its books.

Unstitching the ten-year deal, which gives the royal family a total of £98 million over the decade, would require an Order in Council, a simple enough matter if the political climate allowed it. Earlier this year, some backbenchers expressed anger that the long-term deal was unavailable for scrutiny by the Commons public accounts committee or by Sir John Bourn, the Comptroller and Auditor-General. Any changes in royal family funding are likely to end up

more cosmetic than real, and will satisfy some shades of public opinion rather than provide significant windfalls for the Treasury. Taxing the Queen would be a matter of immense complexity, and best estimates suggest that her personal holdings, even charged at the higher tax rate of 40 per cent, would yield little more than £1.2 million a year to the Exchequer.

Consideration is also being given to ending Civil List payments to most of the 11 members of the royal family in receipt of working expenses from the state. The Queen already repays from her private funds the allowances of the Dukes of Kent and

Gloucester and of Princess Alexandra. Removing funding from the Duke of York, Prince Edward, the Princess Royal, Princess Margaret and Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, would save about £600,000 a year.

The Prince and Princess of Wales do not figure in the calculations, as they are funded entirely from the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall; in addition, one quarter of the duchy's annual profits are handed over to the Treasury in lieu of income tax, and equivalent to payment at the basic rate of 25 per cent. Critics point out that the prince, on his income, should be paying tax at 40 per cent.

## Soldiers may be charged over Ulster shootings

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

SIX paratroops face criminal charges following disturbances involving nationalist youths in Northern Ireland after a colleague was blown up by the IRA.

A report of a police investigation into the incident at Coalisland in Co. Tyrone has been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary began its inquiry after soldiers from the 3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment allegedly went on the rampage in the strongly nationalist town.

The trouble began in May within hours of a young member of the regiment losing his legs when he stepped on an IRA mine near Cappagh, Co. Tyrone.

It was alleged by councillors and local people that soon after the attack, members of 3rd Battalion burst into two bars in the centre of Coalisland, dragging people outside to beat them.

Three days after that incident, paratroops wounded three youths when they shot their way to freedom after being surrounded by an hostile crowd.

The soldiers had been searching for a machinegun seized in an earlier attack on an army patrol in the town. The commander of 3rd Infantry Brigade in Northern Ireland was moved to another post three days after the incident.

Meanwhile, a man the IRA claimed it had murdered for being a police spy was recovering in hospital yesterday after an operation to remove a bullet from his head. The IRA claimed it had "executed" the man, who lives in the Ardoyne area of north Belfast, for being an RUC special branch informer for 18 months.

But security sources said the man named in an IRA statement that included details of his alleged police handlers was under police guard in a Belfast hospital in a satisfactory condition.

A huge IRA bomb planted in the centre of Armagh was defused by the army yesterday. The bomb, packed into a van,

contained between 600 and 1,000 lbs of explosives, police said. It had been left outside the court house. Thirty homes were evacuated for several hours while the army dealt with the device by carrying out a series of controlled explosions. Nobody was injured.

Last Friday the IRA attempted to bomb the court house in Newry on the Co. Down border but only part of the device went off. The building is undergoing reconstruction after an earlier bomb attack.

Meanwhile, an incendiary bomb attached to a five-gallon drum of petrol was made safe close to the Bank of Ireland at Glengormley on the northern outskirts of Belfast. A telephone warning had been received by the security forces who arrived on the scene to discover the bomb had failed to function properly and had only partially gone off.

Three premises at Dundonald on the eastern outskirts of the city were damaged in petrol bomb attacks during the night. A solicitor's office and a craft shop-restaurant were set alight when windows were shattered and petrol bombs thrown inside. A housing executive office in the area suffered external scorch damage in a third attack.

The soldier who lost his legs in the Cappagh blast will marry his long-time sweetheart, Alistair Hodgson, 20, a private, was blown up by a terrorist's bomb operated by remote control.

He lost one leg immediately and had the other removed in surgery. He was not expected to survive his injuries and his parents were flown to his hospital bedside in Northern Ireland. He had been in the regiment less than a year.

But he is recovering slowly from his injuries and will marry Rebecca Davis whom he met four years ago in the bank where she worked. The depth of feeling aroused by his injuries was shown when more than 2,000 soldiers took part in a fun run to raise £25,000 for him. The couple have not yet set a date for the wedding.



By PAUL WILKINSON

Fog fatality: a man was killed early yesterday as his Transit van, above, was wedged under a sheep lorry in one of two pile-ups within yards of each other on the fog-bound M18 in South Yorkshire. Twenty-three other people were injured.

A second man was killed and eight others were hurt in three other accidents in fog across the North and North East.

Police warned drivers to beware the onset of autumn driving conditions.

Fifty-four vehicles, including 15 lorries, were involved in the two crashes on the M18 at Bramley, near Rotherham, South Yorkshire. Police said that visibility was down to a few yards when the unnamed driver died. They accused northbound drivers of causing the second pile-up by trying to jump rescuers at the first.

Trevor Fortune, 25, of Powburn, Northumberland, died when his Ford

Fiesta collided with a Mercedes on the A697 near Powburn. James Grieg, 66, of Barnes, southwest London, has been charged with causing death by dangerous driving.

Three people were taken to hospital in Pontefract, West Yorkshire, after a 30-vehicle crash on the M62. Five people were injured in a series of crashes on a six-mile stretch of the A19 in Co. Durham. The southbound carriageway was closed for two hours.

## Tebbit confirms split

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major will leave behind him a Conservative party shaken by further rumblings over Europe when he flies to Paris tomorrow to meet President Mitterrand to gauge the likelihood of France and Germany setting up a power bloc excluding Britain.

Government officials insisted yesterday that there were no rifts in the Cabinet over the Maastricht treaty, but Lord Tebbit, the former party chairman, admitted there were divisions. He warned Mr Major that, if he pushed the Maastricht Bill through parliament, the Conservative party would be left "sore, wounded and sad".

"There are powerful voices within the Cabinet who believe that the Maastricht treaty is fatally flawed, that it was a brave effort at the time, but that things have moved on," he said on BBC Radio 4's *The World At One*.

Advising Mr Major to reject

the treaty, he said: "The prime minister once observed to me on another issue that he was a great admirer of Brer Rabbit, who, he reminded me, when he did not know which way to go, hid under the cabbage leaves until he did."

"I think that the prime minister might find the cabbage leaves useful for a short while. And, in a short while, it would become very clear that the right way to go is away from Maastricht."

His former Cabinet colleague, Lord Howe of Aberavon, retorted on the same programme that Lord Tebbit was the one living under the cabbage leaves. No party had ever had unanimity on the European issue.

"There has always been, and will always be, a minority hostile to it, but, equally, in all parties, a majority in favour," he said.

Leading article, page 15

## Patten defies critics

By JOHN O'LEARY AND MATTHEW D'ANCONA

JOHN Patten, the education secretary, yesterday claimed widespread support for his education white paper, as the National Union of Teachers joined critics of his plans to encourage all schools to opt out of local authority control.

Mr Patten told a CBI conference that he expected 1,500 grant-maintained schools to be operating by April 1994. Local education authorities would have a "significant but changing role to play". One authority, understood to be Hillingdon, in west London, had already asked to change its structure.

Measures in an education bill to be published in November would encourage schools to use up to 20 per cent of classroom time to specialise in technology or other subjects. They would also allow the government to take a lead in reducing surplus places in schools, making better use of resources. Some authorities

had shown themselves to be incapable of managing their building stock, contributing to a national surplus of 1.5 million places. "We should have got to grips with this problem 20 or 30 years ago," Mr Patten said. "It is never popular to close schools, but I think it is morally wrong to waste these buildings which house surplus places."

In a written response, the NUT called the white paper a "charter for political interference" that will do nothing to enhance equality of opportunity in the classroom or teaching performance.

The union argues that the proposals will increase centralisation and reduce local accountability and are "a major constitutional misjudgment". It says "permanent administrative uncertainty" will accompany the withering of the local authorities.

Leading article, page 15

## BBC TV faces £20m cuts to avert deficit

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

SIR Michael Checkland, the BBC director-general, yesterday ordered a £20 million cut in television spending over the next six months to rectify a projected deficit caused by accounting errors.

Responding to disclosures in *The Times* yesterday that BBC Television was heading for an overspend this financial year of over £50 million which could jeopardise the quality of next autumn's schedules, the BBC admitted "flaws in the financial allocation process", but denied that programme budgets would suffer too much from consequent cuts.

However, last night one senior BBC television executive hardened the figure to £63 million, while several others again insisted that it was over £50 million. The BBC dismissed these claims as "nonsense" and "rubbish".

One senior source last night said the projected overspend depended on the accounting method used, and suggested

that the BBC had masked the extent of the problem.

Sir Michael has now told television department heads to come up with £20 million in savings before the financial year-end next March. "This will enable the BBC to bring its overall budget back into balance," the BBC said.

Cost-cutting will hit programme-making as well as housekeeping, premises and capital investment, a BBC statement said. However, a BBC Television spokesman said programming "would be spared as far as possible".

Two weeks ago, the BBC announced 1,250 redundancies to redirect £120 million into programming over 18 months. Cuts are not expected to involve more job losses.

The accounting muddle involved duplication in allocation of programme budgets. Each departmental budget — from drama to sport — is meant to cover BBC1 and BBC2, but accountants are said to have given the money to both channel controllers.

Yesterday, it was revealed that the BBC budgeted for cuts in costs of resources, such as studios, yet to be made. Computer error has also contributed to the projected overspend.

### CORRECTION

The Morris Ring of England was founded in 1934 and not, as reported on September 7, 40 years ago.

## The Times expands in two new sections

*The Times* is to expand its news, sports and arts coverage with a new two-section format from mid-October, Peter Stothard, the new editor, promised yesterday (Melinda Wittstock writes).

Increased use of colour and later deadlines would also help to increase *The Times*' accessibility and general appeal, said Mr Stothard, who took over from Simon Jenkins as the newspaper's editor ten days ago.

Readers will see more news reports and analysis from home and abroad. There will also be more up-to-date arts reviews and features and a new sports service in the two expanded sections.

"My first aim is that the leadership of *The Times* in politics, business, arts criticism and sports reporting should be sharpened," Mr Stothard said.

"The second ambition is that the contents of *The Times* be more accessible to those busy people whose time for reading has to be won in hard competition against other demands."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## City hall blamed for £10m games loss

The profligate spending policies of Sheffield council were to blame for its £10.4 million loss on the World Student Games in July last year, a report published last night by the district auditor said. The document criticises councillors who, it says, knew the risks but failed to examine finances on behalf of the public. The auditor, Gordon Sutton, also blames Ray Gridley, the games director and city housing chief, who was brought in at short notice in an effort to salvage the event.

Mr Sutton says that Sheffield's leaders "patently failed to impose their will on the officers concerned. At no time did they have adequate financial information on which to base their decisions."

In a separate report, also published last night, Pamela Gordon, Sheffield's chief executive, said that no individual was at fault. She blamed the recession for the lack of sponsorship and the collapse of Universade GB, the company set up to run the games, for creating confusion among potential sponsors and individuals.

The cost of the games is one of the main causes of Sheffield's financial crisis, which has produced an overall deficit this year of £7.25 million, which could rise to £40 million in 1993. In an effort to meet lower spending targets, the council last week announced 1,000 job losses.

## Councils miss the mark

The standard of entries in the first Charter Mark awards for excellence in public services has been so poor that ministers have decided to award only 36 of the 50 trophies (Douglas Broom writes). At a ceremony in Whitehall today, John Major, the prime minister, will present awards to 14 local authorities and 22 public bodies. Charter Marks are the seal of approval for public bodies that meet standards set out in the citizen's charter. Mr Major is said to have been disappointed at the standard of the 296 entries. Among the winners is Wandsworth council, southwest London. Westminster council, Wandsworth's main rival as a flagship Tory council, failed to win a Charter Mark.

## Breakfast show debut

Channel 4's new early morning show, *The Big Breakfast*, came under fire from television critics and advertising agencies after its debut yesterday (Melinda Wittstock writes). They said its trendiness would appeal mainly to young teenagers who were unlikely to get up early enough to watch it. Bob Geldof, a notoriously late riser, stayed up all night to attend the 7am launch. Paula Yates, his wife and a presenter, said: "If people are fast asleep while we're on, that's just fine. People are bound to keep only half an eye on us and half an eye on their kids to stop them sticking breakfast into each other's ears." Official viewing figures will be available after two weeks. Review, L&T, page 3

## Malaria death ruling

The brother of the Liberal Democrat MP Simon Hughes died of natural causes, contributed to by lack of care after he contracted malaria, a coroner ruled yesterday. Richard Hughes, 57, a language teacher, died from the disease shortly after being seen by a doctor at his home in Dorchester, Dorset. He is believed to have caught malaria on honeymoon in Kenya. His widow Jocelyn, 38, told an earlier hearing that a doctor said he had "nothing more" than flu. Nigel Neville-Jones, East Dorset coroner, said he accepted that malaria was difficult to diagnose, but Mr Hughes's GP, Philip Bosworth, was aware that he had returned from Kenya and should have arranged a blood test.

## 3.9m jobless claim

Official unemployment figures may be underestimating the number of people out of work by more than a million, a report claims today. More than 30 changes to the way unemployment is measured have been made since 1979, reducing the official total. If the figures were compiled as they were in 1979, the official total of 2.8 million unemployed would rise to 3.9 million. The Child Poverty Action Group says. What to do about the poor, page 14

## Riverbus rescue hope

Emergency funding for the Riverbus, London's ailing waterborne passenger service, will expire at midnight tomorrow (Michael Dwyer writes). The company is confident negotiations on a new rescue package will be completed and announced later today before the deadline. The future of the service was thrown into doubt when Olympia & York, the Canary Wharf developer and former principal owner of the Riverbus, went into administrative receivership in May.

## Computers rejected

More than half of Britain's small businesses do not invest in personal computers, a survey by Mori, the pollsters, for IBM, the computer company, showed yesterday. Despite the personal computers revolution of the eighties, many workers still do time-consuming administrative tasks manually. Six out of ten non-user small businesses say they will never buy a PC. Only 15 per cent plan to install a computer in the next five years. Small businesses in the North are much less likely to invest in PCs than in the South, where 66 per cent use computers, nearly twice the number in the Midlands. Only 17 per cent of the public own a home computer and 78 per cent say they will not buy one in the future.

## Zoo chiefs to resign

The secretary of the Zoological Society of London, Sir Barry Cross (right) and its treasurer, Peter Howell, have announced they intend to resign. The news comes as London Zoo faces a critical annual meeting tomorrow, with its future still in doubt. The meeting will consider a multi-million-pound rescue plan for the stricken facility, including proposals for a new aquarium and a cinema complex.



## 70 opera jobs to go

The Royal Opera House is to shed up to 70 jobs and cut the number of new productions to cope with a growing deficit, now standing at £3.6 million. Jeremy Isaacs, general director, has told Bectu, the union that represents more than half the 1,150 staff, that he has to turn the deficit into a £1 million profit in three years. Meetings are also to be held with Equity and the Musicians' Union. A wage freeze was imposed on all staff earlier this month.

## Russians sail on

The Russian couple who sailed 2,000 miles from St Petersburg to Southampton in a leaking 24ft yacht are to leave the port of Warrash, Hampshire, this morning after being denied political asylum. Aleksandr and Galina Grazhdankin, from Moscow, will sail to the Canary Islands and hope to continue to the West Indies or Australia. They are ineligible for asylum here because they should have applied at Copenhagen, the first port they stopped at.

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# Blacks and Asians worst hit by heart disease deaths

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE poor health of Britain's ethnic minorities is to be targeted by the government in an attempt to reduce the number of deaths from heart disease and strokes, and the high incidence of tuberculosis and mental illness among black and Asian communities.

Deaths from heart disease are 36 per cent higher among Asian men and 46 per cent higher among Asian women than among the general population. Strokes kill 76 per cent more Afro-Caribbean men than the average and more than twice as many Afro-Caribbean women, according to the annual report of the chief medical officer, Kenneth Calman, published yesterday.

Virginia Bottomley, health secretary, said that she was arranging meetings between NHS managers and ethnic group leaders to take action.

"It is clear this section of the population does have some particular health needs," she said. "I want the NHS to be more precisely tuned in to these needs."

Dr Calman, presenting his first annual report, said that

poverty was only one factor in the poorer health of ethnic minorities. Cultural and ethnic factors also played their part. Schizophrenia is three to six times more common among Afro-Caribbeans living in England than among those in Jamaica. The report says that the illness may be triggered by stress caused by racism and unemployment.

Asians are less likely than the average to be admitted to

hospital or to consult their GPs with psychiatric illness. This may be because they are more reluctant to seek help for mental health problems, the report says.

The high rate of heart disease and strokes cannot be explained in terms of the conventional risk factors of cholesterol, smoking and high blood pressure, it says. Smoking among most ethnic groups is well below that in the white population. But the high rate of diabetes, twice that in the general population, may provide a clue. The report says there is evidence that Asians are more prone to a physiological disturbance causing insulin resistance which can lead to coronary heart disease and diabetes.

Tuberculosis is 25 times more common among Asians than the white population. Although the disease is declining, the decline has been slower among Asians. In the first six months of 1988, 40 per cent of patients notified with tuberculosis were of Asian origin.

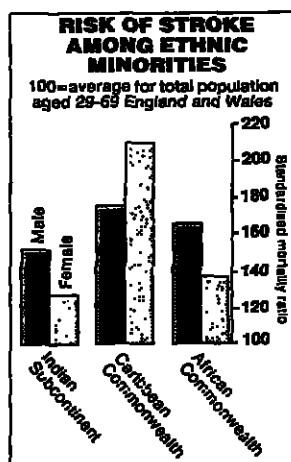
Black and Asian mothers

are at higher risk of having malformed babies. However, cot deaths are more than twice as likely to occur among the babies of UK-born mothers than among those who are Asian-born.

Dr Calman said that there was increasing recognition of the need to "eliminate discrimination within the NHS". Ethnic minorities may have missed out on services because they were inappropriate or insensitive, or not targeted properly, he said. "We need to involve ethnic communities in helping us decide what is most appropriate."

□ HIV-positive tests among homosexual men fell 10 per cent last year, the report says. The number of Aids cases among homosexual men remained stable after a sharp rise the previous year. This did not mean that the Aids epidemic was nearing its peak, Dr Calman said. Evidence of an increase in rectal gonorrhoea among men suggested that the rate of HIV transmission may still be increasing.

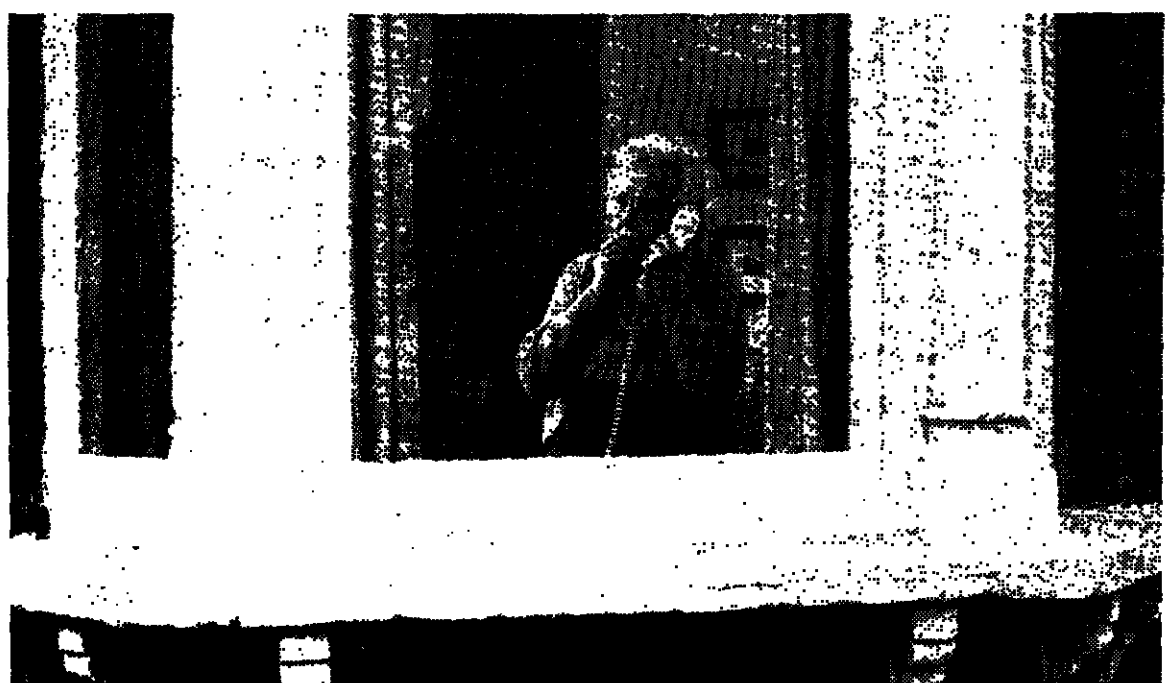
□ On the State of the Public Health 1991; HMSO, £14.50



Family first: Lynn Redgrave (right) and her daughter Kelly Clark, 22, began filming yesterday for "Calling the Shots", a BBC media mini-series to be shown early next year. It is the first time they have filmed together

*She worries that you haven't arrived.*

*She thinks you were due an hour ago.*



*She thinks she might have the wrong day.*

*She worries that she can't get through to you.*

*But your son's still on your phone, talking team tactics with a friend.*



*And she wishes you hadn't turned down this free offer.*

If you'd accepted our offer, she wouldn't be left listening to a lonely engaged signal.

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A couple of pushes of the phone buttons later, he'd be talking to his grandmother.

And her worries would be over.

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## Charity trustees 'in dark'

By RUTH GLEDHILL

ALMOST two thirds of charity trustees in England and Wales are unaware that they are trustees and could be financially liable if their organisation became bankrupt, according to a report published today by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations.

Fewer than half receive information about their organisation's role and their responsibilities as trustees, and fewer than a fifth are given training, the report, *On Trust*, says.

Tim Dartington, the council's head of management development, said: "Trustees sometimes do not recognise they are trustees because they might see themselves as committee members or as members of a board."

"If the charity went bankrupt and the trustees had not taken proper care and attention, they might find themselves financially liable. If charitable funds were being used for non-charitable purposes, they could be required to refund that money."

The council is calling for comprehensive training so that trustees may better understand the legal and financial framework in which charities operate.

Winifred Tunnin, L&T section, page 10

## Brothers Roux in the soup

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE new edition of the *Good Food Guide*, published today, drops the Roux brothers' restaurants back in the soup. The Roux's Le Gavroche in Mayfair, London, and Waterside Inn at Bray in Berkshire are the only two restaurants in Britain awarded three stars by Michelin.

A couple of years ago Le Gavroche was triumphantly acquitted of having a fly-infested, unclean kitchen. Now the Waterside stands accused of serving meals that are not up to snuff for a top-rated restaurant.

Last year the Waterside, where a three-course meal can cost up to £80, was given a *Good Food Guide* rating of four out of five, described as representing "excellent cooking". This year the rating drops to 3\*, which means "very good cooking", though a "particularly fine example" in that lower category. That means the restaurant is no longer included in the book's list of "top-rated restaurants", confined to those thought worthy of scores of 4 or 5.

The Waterside is run by Michel Roux, the more suave and romantic of the television cooking duo, whose books on cooking have been best-sellers. The text of the Waterside's entry in the new edition of the guide, edited by Tom Jaine, comments: "This is a restaurant that aspires to the highest, but often does not meet it."

Le Gavroche, run by Albert Roux and his son Michel junior, is among three restaurants which retain the *Guide's* top rating of five.

Leading article, page 15

## Radio 4 fans threaten long wave of protest

By JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

RADIO 4 listeners are threatening "militant action", including a ritual destruction of television licences and an occupation of Broadcasting House, in protest at plans to eject the station from its long-wave frequency, depriving many listeners of programmes such as *The Archers* and *Woman's Hour*.

Campaigners are angry at corporation proposals to put a 24-hour news service on Radio 4's long-wave frequency. Radio 4 will then be available only on FM, which is poor or unavailable in some parts of the country. Nick MacKinnon, the campaign organiser, said: "We are planning a day of action for next week when we shall cut up our television licences and send them to Broadcasting House."

The group plans a protest march, ending with a sit-in at Broadcasting House, in central London. It is demanding the resignation of Marmaduke Hussey, chairman of the BBC's board of governors. "Mr Hussey's job is to ascertain what the public interest is," Mr MacKinnon said. "The man has failed in this matter and will fail in other matters. We want him to go, whether they take off Radio 4 or not."

Mr MacKinnon, 29, a mathematics teacher from Winchester, Hampshire,

opened hostilities in a letter read out on Radio 4's *Food-back* programme on Friday. Since then he has received nearly a thousand letters of support.

"Many are suggesting far more violent tactics than mine," he said. "It's not surprising—they are being given a life sentence by being deprived of Radio 4. They are going to have silence for the rest of their lives."

Among the complainants are several prisoners, who are not allowed to listen to FM radio in case they monitor police broadcasts. Other protesters include sailors and lorry drivers, who will be unable to pick up Radio 4 on the Continent. Campaigns have also started among more than 500,000 Radio 4 listeners in Ireland, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany and Scandinavia.

The BBC said yesterday that the decision was unlikely to be reversed. Sandra Chalmers, of Radio 4, said that fears were exaggerated. "I think most of them could pick up the service on FM if they tried. You just need to tune your set a bit more carefully."

She said that 96 per cent of Radio 4's eight million listeners could receive FM, and the figure should rise to 98 per cent by 1994. She was not sympathetic to listeners abroad: "They don't pay a licence fee."

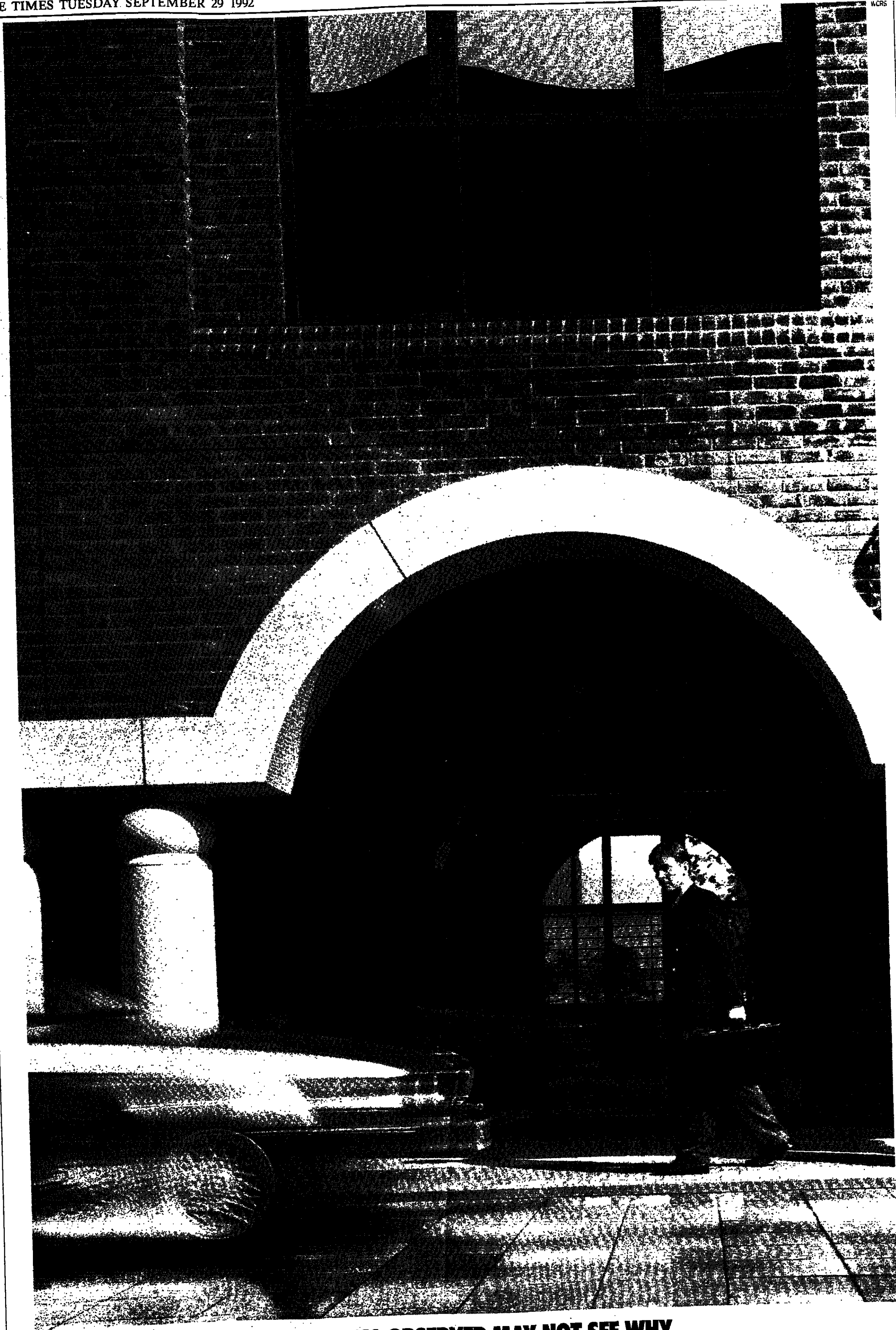




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## Lord Taylor warns new jailing rules may backfire

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, will warn judges this week that unless they take steps to cut the lengths of sentences, the new provisions of the Criminal Justice Act 1991 will backfire and lead to a large increase rather than a fall in the prison population.

His advice, to be issued in a practice direction on Thursday when the act comes into force, is the clearest sign yet of the uncertainty within the criminal justice system over whether it will work.

The act creates a new statutory sentencing framework founded on the twin principles of a shift away from custody for minor offenders and longer, tougher sentences for violent and sexual offenders. The hope is that a spin-off will be a

reduction in the prison population. But judges and offenders have not known the date of release.

Under the act, it would be clear both to judges and offenders how long they must serve. Offenders may be released halfway through the sentence but would be liable to recall for the rest if they reoffended. Unless judges took into account the longer period offenders will serve and "adjust their sentences accordingly", the prison population would rise, Lord Justice Farquharson said yesterday.

He said that the Court of Appeal had a vital role in ensuring the purpose of the act was met. Lord Taylor's practice direction was aimed at ensuring judges had regard to the consequences of their sentencing so that "they don't pass longer sentences, or rather that the effect of what they do has the effect of passing longer sentences under the provisions of the new act".

Government officials have calculated that parole changes could increase the prison population by 1,400. But they are estimating a net cut in the population of 3,500 by 1995 through fewer offenders being sent to custody.

Lord Justice Farquharson, who chairs the Judicial Studies Board's criminal committee, both emphasised that judges had no problems with the aims of the act: they had always tried their best to keep offenders out of custody where possible. The act further developed that philosophy, only with more "stringent" conditions. "They are very committed to it." But some judges were anxious about the wording of the act, and there could be inconsistencies in the first few months over interpretation of unclear wording. However, he said it would not mean sentencing "chaos".

Law Times, pages 27, 28



Farquharson: new attitude is needed

reduction in the prison population. The big question is whether judges will go along with the new principles.

Yesterday Lord Justice Farquharson, who chairs the Judicial Studies Board, said concern about the impact on the prison population was "causing greatest anxiety".

"It would be tragic if, as a result of this act, the prison population went up when the whole purpose and thrust is to reduce it, and that is what the judges' approach will be."

He said that the act required a "change in attitude". Until now, sentences have borne little relation to time served. At present, offenders with remission may be released on parole



## Pets are put on the couch

Paws for thought: David Appleby, a pet behavioural counsellor, treating a patient at the Scarsdale veterinary clinic in Derby. He examines animals' backgrounds in an effort to find the root of their bad behaviour (Julia Llewellyn Smith writes).

Mr Appleby also offers free 90-minute sessions at the RSPCA's psychological clinic in Leicester, which has treated more than a hundred pets since it opened earlier this month. Mr Appleby, a visiting counsellor at the Cambridge University vet school, discusses the animals' upbringing with their owners. Cases have included a

dog that slept on its owners' bed and bit them every time they turned over, and another that prevented its owners going on holiday by howling every time it was left alone.

"It's a question of looking into the animal's history to see when the problem developed," Mr Appleby said. "For example, a cat that is spraying everywhere may be doing so because it is insecure. To cure this we would maybe make its cat flap

smaller, so it felt more secure and safe. We have to gradually rebuild its confidence."

"A dog that is allowed to sit in its owner's lap or keep a toy after play may think it is a dominant dog and has a right to be aggressive."

The RSPCA has introduced the counselling, which includes follow-up telephone advice, to save difficult animals from being put down. Difficulty with behaviour is the main

reason for dogs under two being destroyed. One in five British dogs is estimated to have behavioural difficulties.

Mr Appleby said that not all badly-brought-up dogs would show it. "You can do all the wrong things with pets and get away with it, but sometimes some will be affected. It's embarrassing if your dog misbehaves when friends come round."

The RSPCA said: "I know the thought of a dog lying on a couch, describing its dreams, sounds ridiculous, but this really is invaluable help for so many of them."

## Appeal judges given training

By FRANCES GIBB AND RICHARD FORD

THE most senior judges who deal with criminal cases, those in the Court of Appeal, will have a training session this week on the new sentencing provisions of the Criminal Justice Act 1991.

The move is the last in what has been one of the biggest training exercises for the judiciary in England and Wales for any legislation.

More than 500 circuit judges, recorders and assistant recorders have each attended at least one training session on

the philosophy of the act, which creates the first statutory framework for sentencing. The key points include:

- Short-term prisoners to serve at least half sentence.
- More use of punishment in the community.
- Combination order combines probation and unpaid work in the community.
- Means-related fines.
- Unpaid fines can be deducted from social security.
- Parental responsibility: power to bind over parents to control their children.

□ Youth Courts: juvenile court replaced, age limit raised to 18.

□ Idea that young children cannot be credible witnesses abolished. Video-taped evidence from children to be used.

□ Maximum penalty for non-domestic burglary cut from 14 years to ten.

□ Parole Board rather than home secretary to decide on release of those serving discretionary life sentences.

## £220m plan unveiled for Games arena

By RONALD FAUX

PLANS for a £220 million arena for central Manchester, a key component in the city's bid to hold the Olympic Games in 2000, were published yesterday.

The project will go ahead whether or not Manchester is awarded the games and is the central feature of the Victoria station regeneration. It covers a multi-purpose indoor sports arena, seating up to 16,400, with a 46-storey "crystal" tower incorporating office accommodation and five-star hotel.

At 650ft, the tower will dominate the entrance to the city from the northeast and rank among the tallest buildings in the region. The distinctive architecture of the Victoria station will be retained in the planning application submitted by Vector Investments and the British Railways Board.

The arena has been earmarked as the venue for the Olympic gymnastic competitions but will be used for other international sport and leisure activities, including ice events, basketball and hockey. The complex will be served by British Rail and Metrolink.

## 'Sexist' farmers dig in

By DAVID YOUNG

AS A job description, "farmerette" has never caught on. There is no record of any pub offering farmerette lunches and folk singers never break into rousing renditions of "I am a jolly farmerette and I plough the fields all day".

However, the Irish National Ploughing Association is determined to continue using the term, which it has employed for the past 40 years to describe female farm workers, even if it has incurred the wrath of Ireland's Council for the Status of Women.

The country's biggest agricultural show has been accused of sexism for sticking to the description. The organisers of the national ploughing championships have received a formal protest from feminist organisations for continuing to classify women entrants in

an annual contest for Ireland's top ploughwoman as farmerettes.

Carmel Foley, chief executive of the women's council, called the offending word "belittling, sexist, outmoded and outdated", and said that it did not reflect the role of women in farming.

The protest seems unlikely to succeed. Anna McHugh, Irish National Ploughing Association managing director, said: "We have no intention of changing the name of the competition." Who coined the word for the entry forms in the early 1950s has been long forgotten. The winner will take the title Queen of the Plough, a crystal glass trophy and £150. Until 10 years ago, she received an extra £100 on her wedding day if she married before the age of 25.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Wheelchair woman murdered

A disabled woman in a wheelchair was found battered to death in her sheltered flat at Long Lawford, Warwickshire, yesterday.

Neighbours said Rosemarie Smith, 52, had a leg in plaster and would have been unable to reach a panic alarm in the flat.

A home help found her lying in a pool of blood near her telephone.

### Sex calls denied

A £40,000 a year accountant dialled 0898 sex lines on office phones and used a company credit card to buy personal items, a Chelsea industrial tribunal was told yesterday.

Brian Williams, 50, of East Molesey, Surrey, claims that Chugoku Marine Paint of Westminster made the allegations to avoid paying redundancy. He claims unfair dismissal and unpaid overtime. The hearing continues.

### Case settled

A former appeal court judge, Lord Brightman, has settled a legal action he brought against Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester. The dispute followed complaints he made about treatment when he was a patient.

### Juice cleared

Ten cases against the supermarket chain Sainsbury's were dropped at Wells Street magistrates' court, London, yesterday. The firm had been accused of mislabelling cartons of treated orange juice as pure juice, but the agriculture ministry halted proceedings when a similar case failed.

### 1,000 helpers

Nearly 1,000 people have contacted police hunting the man who raped an eight-year-old girl near Basildon, Essex, last week. Police said they were following up all information and hoped soon to issue a photo-fit picture of the attacker.

### Trout taken

Barbed wire fences and security guards failed to halt poachers who took 8,000 trout from fish farms at Wansford, Humberside.

### Toy siege

Police wearing bullet proof vests mounted an armed siege after a 14-year-old boy chased his mother with a toy pistol yesterday. Neighbours at Chippingham, Wiltshire, failed to recognise Frankie Cavacchi, and police feared he was a real gunman.

### Hunger strike

Women inmates at Bullwood Hall open prison in Hockley, Essex, have started a hunger strike over conditions. The Home Office confirmed that 28 refused to eat breakfast yesterday.

### Rider fined

International three-day event rider Mark Todd, who runs Andrew Lloyd Webber's equestrian centre at Watership Down, was fined £100 at Andover, Hampshire, yesterday for driving a horsebox with an insecure load. He pleaded guilty.

### Knife rape

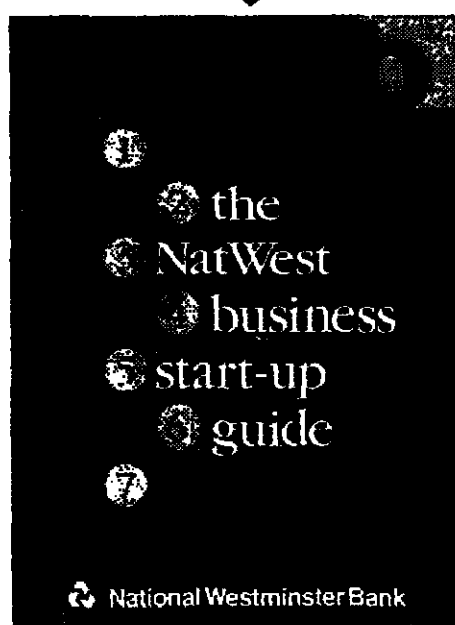
A 31-year-old woman was raped at knife point in a car after she hitched a ride in east London early yesterday.

### Cemetery attack

Five skinheads attacked a 20-year-old woman in a graveyard at Darlington, co. Durham, at the weekend.

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A sentence from 'Autocar & Motor' will perhaps explain why BMW have moved on from what is arguably the world's best 6 cylinder engine.

BMW's new 8 cylinder, they forecast, "stands every chance of being one of the greatest engines of its time".

The journalists have an advantage over you: they've driven both the 8 cylinder 730i and the 8 cylinder 740i.

The principle of both engines is the same: the extra cylinders provide even more power in the velvet glove that has become the 7 Series' signature.

The 4.0 litre 8 cylinder, for example, has 80% of its very considerable torque at a lowly 2000 rpm. So your right foot doesn't actually travel very far to release the power (peaking at 286bhp).

So much so, that the engine is electronically restrained so you won't exceed 149 mph on the Autobahn. (If you overshoot to Poland you'll find the engine so adaptable that it lets you drive on whatever octane brew is offered in Cracow.)

#### THE ULTIMATE...

The advanced electronics are just one of the features that has engine experts gazing in awe at what's under the bonnet.

The conrods, for example, are made in a revolutionary new way, by *baking* metal powder instead of merely melting metal, that is so precise they don't even need balancing.

Precision, too, comes from the individual microphones that listen in to the combustion in each cylinder. This means the engine can run on as lean a mixture as possible, explaining how the more powerful 3.0 litre 8 cylinder engine actually uses less petrol than the frugal 6 cylinder version.

Ingenuity doesn't cease when you take the wheel. The computer controlled 5 speed gear-box can actually adapt to your driving style. You can even order double glazed windows that shrink wind noise to a passing whir. Or BMW's Parking Distance Control whose radar warns you if you are about to reverse into a hidden bollard.

#### ...DRIVING MACHINES.

For all these refinements, both new models remain serious driving machines. The power is there to be used and enjoyed (responsibly, of course). The road feel is to be relished, this isn't one of those limousines that makes you feel you're steering a boat.

Try one, or both. You'll probably share the opinion of Germany's leading car magazine, 'Auto motor und sport'. They compared the 740i with three older V8 powered cars. The Mercedes 400SE, the Audi V8 4.2 and the Lexus LS400.

They discovered that all these fine cars have just been overtaken by a brilliant new engine.

Even a casual observer would notice the difference.



## THE NEW 8 CYLINDER 7 SERIES.

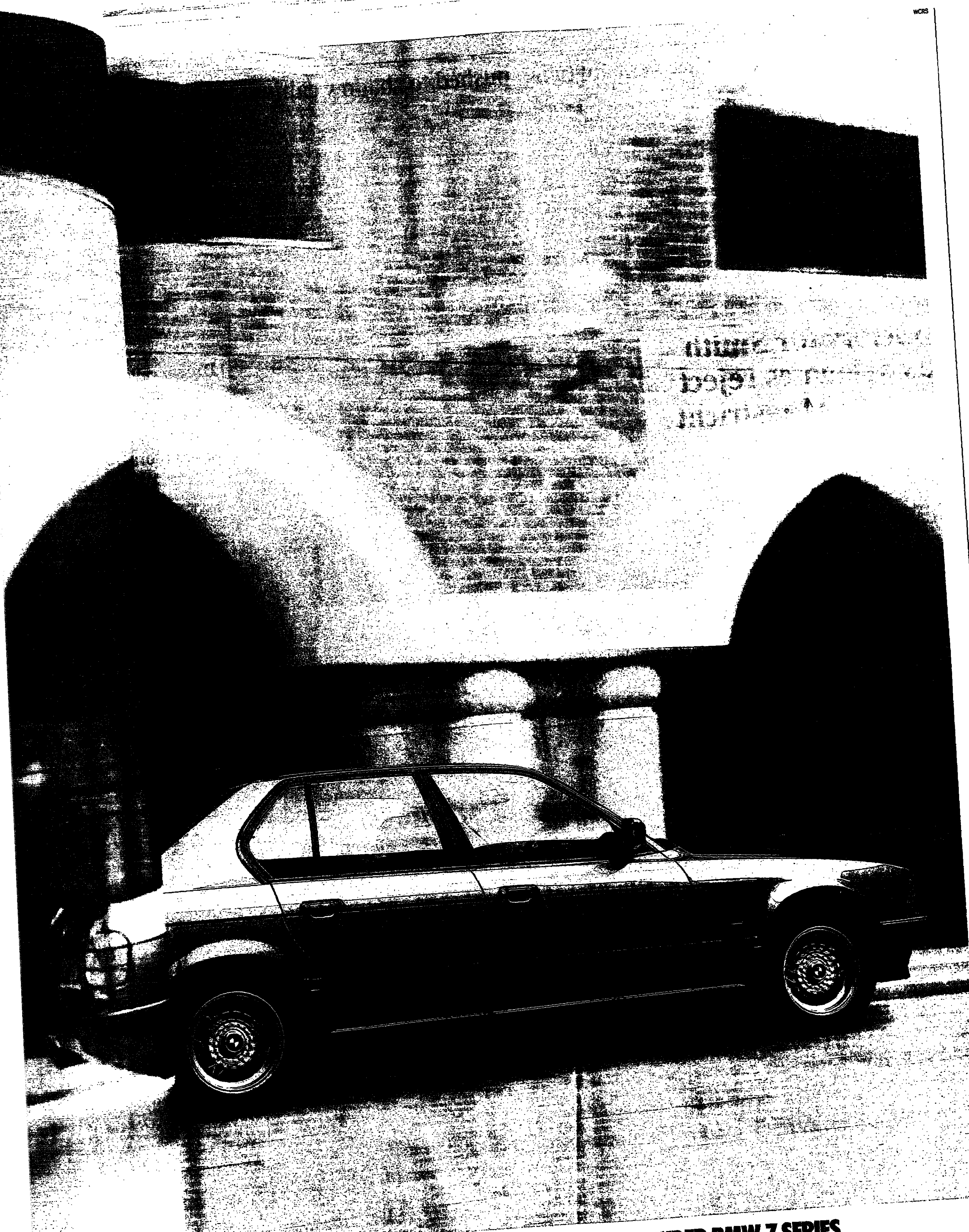
735i VOTED BEST DIRECTOR'S CAR BY WHAT CAR? IN 1988 AND 1989. AUTOCAR & MOTOR QUOTATION FROM 26.2.92 ISSUE. AUTO MOTOR UND SPORT INFORMATION FROM 12.6.92 ISSUE.



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are not off the agenda, adding and Mike Oxade, 47. Knight

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tors, Cromer roundly declared that Parliament and government shared responsibility

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## Gould jumps after five years of being pushed to shadow cabinet margins



Gould: found it hard to keep doubts to himself

Labour's pre-conference national executive meeting on Sunday ended uncomfortably early for Bryan Gould. Rather than dragging on as usual well into the afternoon, it broke up at about 1pm, two hours before Mr Gould was due to appear at a Winter Gardens fringe meeting.

Mr Gould had written his resignation speech the day before and had intended to go straight from the NEC to the meeting and announce that he was leaving the shadow cabinet. Out of courtesy he had planned to tell John Smith as he left the NEC.

The hiatus left him with a dilemma. From the moment he decided to go last Wednesday, Mr Gould was determined to resign on his own terms. Telling Mr Smith at 1pm would have meant the news getting out before Mr Gould was ready. He wanted to jump, not to be pushed.

Mr Smith casually approached Mr Gould at the end of the NEC meeting and asked about his speaking intentions. "I'm not

**Philip Webster and Peter Riddell trace the decline and fall of Bryan Gould, from a high point after the 1987 election**

going to have to sack you, am I Bryan?" he asked. Feeling rather embarrassed Mr Gould replied: "No, you won't have to sack me."

It was the truth, but Mr Gould did not feel good about withholding the whole story. Tony Benn guessed what was in the air when Mr Gould told him he would soon have something of "personal significance" to say.

Mr Gould went to his hotel room, wrote a letter to Mr Smith, and came down to the foyer to post it as he left for the Winter Gardens. A few eagle eyes had seen the envelope; the word inevitably reached Mr Smith. As Mr Gould prepared to speak, a Smith aide, Mike Elrick, appeared with his reply. By the time Mr Gould got to his feet the news had broken.

The possibility of resignation had

been at the back of Mr Gould's mind since July's leadership election, when his objections to Labour's economic and European policies were laid bare. Tenaciously independent, he was always going to find it hard to keep his doubts to himself. The prospect may have been behind his decision to turn down Mr Smith's offer of the education and health portfolios after the shadow cabinet elections.

Mr Gould hoped he might be accommodated at last Wednesday's meetings of the national executive and shadow cabinet, after which Mr Smith had said he would insist on collective responsibility. It could have been a face-saver: a referendum did not appear to be ruled out for all time. Unfortunately for Mr Gould, at the

NEC his allies moved an amendment stating that the "door should be left open" for a British referendum. It was crushed, leaving Mr Gould without a figleaf.

The die was cast for Mr Gould at the lengthy shadow cabinet discussion which followed. Mr Gould was by no means on his own. David Blunkett, Michael Meacher, Jack Straw, Chris Smith and Doug Hoyle, chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, joined him in the camp wanting to keep a referendum option. Derek Foster, the chief whip, is also reported to have spoken of its attractions. But at the end Mr Smith was able to point to a big majority in his favour.

After that Mr Gould's mind was made up. He rejected the course taken by Tony Benn of remaining in the cabinet and shadow cabinet during the 1970s and early 1980s but feeling free to air his own differences.

Mr Gould did not go immediately since he did not want to disrupt Mr Smith's Commons debut. The resignation ended a five-year per-

iod that saw Mr Gould gradually pushed to the margins within a Labour machine that found his divergence hard to stomach.

It had all seemed so different in 1987. Mr Gould had been campaigns co-ordinator during the general election. Labour MPs rewarded him by electing him top of the poll in the shadow cabinet elections that autumn. Mr Gould immediately asked Neil Kinnock for the job of shadow chancellor, then held by Roy Hattersley. The other candidate was John Smith. Mr Hattersley, the deputy leader, wanted to hand over to Mr Smith and not Mr Gould.

Mr Kinnock gave Mr Smith the shadow chancellor's job and made Mr Gould shadow trade and industry secretary, putting him in charge of the most important of the seven policy review groups, with a wide-ranging brief across industrial and economic policy.

It was during the preparation of his group's paper that things began to go wrong. John (now Lord)

Eatwell, Mr Kinnock's economics adviser, became unhappy with the anti-ERM tone of the document. Mr Gould had devised tough conditions for Britain's entry but, as he alleged in his resignation speech, they were surreptitiously abandoned.

In April, Mr Gould decided to put his alternative platform to the test in the leadership election. Mr Kinnock, who had decided to go immediately after the election defeat, wanted a proper election and was furious at newspaper reports on the Sunday after April 9 of a union "stitch-up for Smith". He telephoned Mr Gould on the Sunday evening to tell him that he was resigning. While not taking the call as an endorsement, Mr Gould felt that he was at least being encouraged to stand.

He did so with enthusiasm, standing for the leadership and deputy leadership. It was his pro-devaluation line, making it difficult for him ever to work for Mr Smith, that did for him then — and finally did for him this week.

## Victory for Smith as delegates reject vote on Maastricht

By NICHOLAS WOOD AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

### EUROPE

THE Labour conference yesterday crowned John Smith's pro-European quest by emphatically rejecting demands for a referendum on the Maastricht blueprint for economic and political union.

Only 24 hours after Bryan Gould resigned from the shadow cabinet in protest at the new leader's refusal to countenance a plebiscite, delegates enhanced Mr Smith's authority and highlighted Mr Gould's isolation by swinging overwhelmingly behind their new leader's support for the treaty and the European exchange rate mechanism.

The scale of the defeat for the pro-referendum lobby inside the Labour party cast doubt on Mr Gould's claims earlier in the day that he had the support of up to eight members of the shadow cabinet and 100 Labour MPs. Mr Smith was said to regard the

outcome as a "staggering success" and as a "humiliation" for his opponents. It was the culmination of a strategy that has already seen the national executive committee and the shadow cabinet falling into line behind Mr Smith's decision not to allow the sterling crisis to deflect Labour from its European goals.

Mr Gould said later that the conference had made a "great mistake", but vowed to continue his campaign to put the issues squarely before the public.

The vote followed a surprisingly subdued debate in which only Tony Benn, the veteran left-winger and former cabinet minister, roused the hall with an impassioned plea for "the biggest constitutional change this century" to be put to the

country. With Mr Gould looking on silently from the platform, Mr Benn said that the treaty transferred ancient, hard-won freedoms from the electors to commissioners and bureaucrats.

With the big unions lining up behind Mr Smith's support for the treaty, Mr Benn was rewarded with more cheers than votes. Delegates backed a concerted attempt by the platform, led by Gerald Kaufman, the former foreign affairs spokesman, to crush the rebels. Mr Kaufman said that Maastricht was the Tories' problem and that the conference should not turn it into Labour's problem. A referendum would be a diversion playing into the hands of the government.

Supporters of a referendum argued that the British people should not be denied a right exercised by the Danes, the French and the Irish. A gulf was opening up between Europe's leaders and its peoples and a failure to hold a public debate and dispel ignorance about the treaty risked bringing the political system into disrepute. A vote in the Commons would be controlled by the whips.

Opponents of a plebiscite argued that it would plunge the party into a war that it would lose. The terms of a referendum would be set by the prime minister and the ensuing debate would inflame nationalist passions at home. A "no" result would damage the interests of other European socialist parties.

Glyn Ford, leader of the Labour MEPs, said: "The last time we went around this track almost 20 years ago we were told it would be a healing process. Yet the scars are still there." A rejection of the Maastricht treaty would have the Tories' "delirious with joy and boost the racist, nationalist and xenophobic".

A "yes" vote would be seen as an endorsement of Mr Major's "narrow, partial, part-time vision of Europe". Malcolm Crane, from Bolsover, pressed delegates to support an emergency motion calling for a referendum, accusing the government of misleading the public when Britain joined the ERM two years ago. "They had people believing we would have money pouring out of our ears." He said that some in the Labour party had jumped on the Conservative ERM bandwagon in an effort to become more "Tory than the Tories".

Labour should not allow the treaty to be ratified unless it had been renegotiated "to remove the economics of mass unemployment and weakening of trade unions." He said that John Smith and Scottish Labour MPs had backed a referendum on devolution for Scotland. "If it's good enough for Scotland, it's good enough for us all."

Mr Brown and Mr Blair, aged 41 and 39 respectively, are popularly linked as the inseparable twins of Labour's new generation. Unusually, this is not just media hype but reflects a genuine friendship. They talk frequently, developing their ideas together and ensuring that they do not clash, either in what they say or in standing against each other.

But they are very different personalities. Mr Brown often



Labour legacy: Neil Kinnock listens intently to yesterday's debate, which left his successor firmly in charge

## Election favours new generation

By PETER RIDDELL, POLITICAL EDITOR

ON THE final Monday of the election campaign, Gordon Brown and Tony Blair, close friends and allies, had a quick coffee on the station concourse at Euston before leaving on separate trains for tours of the Midlands. They discussed what jokes would suit each better when they met up again at an evening rally in Birmingham.

Then someone suggested that within a week they might, if the polls were right, be ministers rather than shadow spokesmen, enduring the frustrations of Opposition. They both paused, struck by the enormity of that prospect.

The polls were, of course, wrong, and both were for a time exhausted and depressed. But they soon bounced back to support John Smith in his leadership campaign and to argue for further changes in Labour's policies and organisation if it is to win power.

Their victories in yesterday's elections to the national executive — at the expense of Dennis Skinner, the standard bearer of the hard-left — confirmed that they will be at the centre of the Labour party's changes over the next few years.

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### NEC

presents an austere image of the Scottish prophet prophesying doom as he delivers rapid-fire speeches in his deep voice. In private, he is witty and more subtle. Mr Blair is more a politician on the television age, generally smiling and appearing as the reasonable, human face of the Labour party.

Their friendship developed after they first entered the

Commons at the 1983 general election. Both, on the soft or Tribune left, recoiled from the excesses of Bennism and were willing supporters of Neil Kinnock's attempts to modernise the party.

One of their first parliamentary experiences was serving under Mr Smith on the party's team on the committee stage of a further instalment of the Tories' trade union legislation. This began close links between the two and Mr Smith.

Messrs Brown and Blair

then gradually ascended the ladder as junior spokesmen, impressing by their assiduity and their ability to pick issues which attracted media interest. Mr Brown was elected to the shadow cabinet in 1987, followed a year later by Mr Blair.

Mr Brown and Mr Blair concentrated on economic issues and, as trade and industry and employment spokesmen respectively from 1989 until this summer, they played a large part in the far-reaching changes in the party's policies of that period, notably the shift in attitudes on public ownership and in relations with the trade unions. They also proved to effective performers on television, arousing the envy of some of their colleagues.

After the April election defeat, they jointly decided to back Mr Smith in the party's leadership election and, although some of their friends hoped one might stand for deputy, they were persuaded by him that Margaret Beckett should be a candidate. They were closely involved in pushing for a mass membership party and for the new theme of Labour as the defender of vested interests. They have also helped Mr Smith this month in sticking to his pro-EC line and resisting calls for a referendum.

Yesterday's success in the national executive elections means that they are now not just Mr Smith's closest allies but also the leading candidates to succeed him.

So far they have avoided competing against each other, but they may at some stage have to decide which of them stands for the leadership.

### LABOUR'S NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

Judith Church (MSF)	4,743,000	East	145,000
Tony Clarke (UCV)	4,470,000	Alice Mahon (Hull)	57,000
Gordon Colling (GPMU)	4,745,000	Michael Meacher (Oldham)	7,000
Bill Connor (Ladew)	4,780,000	Grainne Metcalfe (Mid Staffordshire)	1,000
Dan Duffy (TGWU)	4,812,000	Dawn Primorolo (Bristol South)	48,000
Nigel Harris (AELU)	4,651,000	Dennis Skinner (Bolsover)	308,000
Vernon Hince (RMT)	4,745,000	Clive Soley (Hammersmith)	4,000
Charlie Kelly (Ucas)	4,771,000	John Speller (Warrley West)	5,000
Colm O'Kane (Cofes)	3,333,000	Mike Stokes (Barnsey Central)	1,000
Richard Rose (TSSA)	3,972,000	Andy Whitfield (Lancaster)	1,000
Tow Sawyer (Nupie)	4,789,000	Eleanor Young (Darlington)	3,000
David Ward (NCU-ENG)	4,706,000		
Not elected:			
Ken Capstick (NUM)	2,253,000		
Terry O'Neill (BFWU)	181,000		
Socialist/Co-operative/Other:			
John Evans (NULSC)	\$2,000	Women members:	
Not elected:		Hilary Armstrong (MSF)	4,988,000
Joanna Tait (SEA)	11,000	Brenda Etchells (AELU)	3,825,000
Constituency Labour parties:		Diana Judd (Ladew)	5,049,000
Tony Barn (Cheshire)	354,000	Joan Lester (Coventry)	5,152,000
Tony Blair (Bedford)	387,000	Claire Short (Birmingham Ladywood)	5,082,000
David Blunkett (Sheffield Brightside)	531,000	Not elected:	
Gordon Brown (Durham)	523,000	Doreen Cameron	301,000
Robin Cook (Livingston)	426,000	Mary Honeyball (CWS)	248,000
Neil Kinnock (Selwyn)	533,000	Ann Marjoram (Finchley)	354,000
John Prescott (Hull East)	446,000	Lorraine Monk (Sutton)	221,000
Not elected:		Pauline Purnell (Birmingham Edgbaston)	228,000
Diane Abbott (Hackney North & Stoke Newington)	49,000	Pam Tallow (Cheltenham)	286,000
Paul Boateng (Brent S)	18,000	Treasurer:	
Jeremy Corbyn (Islington North)	22,000	Tom Burtan	
Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow)	17,000	Tom Burtan (GMB-GMW)	3,307,000
Andrew Yungie Gordon (Woolwich)	1,000	Not elected:	
Bryan Gould (Bagenham)	179,000	Gavin Strang (Edinburgh Central)	1,977,000
Ken Livingstone (Brent)		Richard Sella (CWS)	97,000



Benn: earned more cheers than votes

## Brown calls for tough curbs on currency speculators

By JILL SHERMAN AND ROBERT MORGAN

GORDON Brown, the shadow chancellor yesterday demanded tough measures against "short-sleeved speculators" as he kept up Labour's onslaught on John Major's handling of the economy.

Calling for an international summit to draw up ways of curbing speculation, Mr Brown said the exchange rate mechanism had to be reformed and countries outside Europe had to play a part in ensuring economic stability. Meanwhile, the government should "get back to work" and draw up an emergency jobs programme to end the fear of unemployment.

"This global economy needs new international institutions so that never again should the lives and livelihoods of millions of people and the destinies of national economies be directed by a handful of short-sleeved speculators," Mr Brown said during the economy debate.

John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB, also criticised speculators who had won £500 million out of the sterling crisis, and called for a "windfall tax". "If those cocky young men had bet on horses they would have had to pay a gambling tax. I can see

### ECONOMY

why, just because they gamble on currencies, they should be allowed to pocket the lot."

Speaking to journalists later, Mr Brown agreed that a windfall tax should be discussed at the international summit. He urged Mr Major to use the EC summit on October 16 to argue for wider powers and resources to help weak currencies before they hit the ERM floor.

The time limit for intervention by central banks should be extended from three to six months, the scope for intervention at intra marginal rates (between the floor and ceiling of a currency) should be extended, and European reserves be pooled.

The shadow chancellor criticised the current "vacuum" at the heart of British government. To widespread applause he said: "I say to Norman Lamont, spend your energies pursuing the useful goal of creating jobs for others rather than the futile one of clinging to your own."

His attack on the prime minister had delegates doubled up with laughter. The recession started when John Major became Treasury secretary, worsened when he became Chancellor and intensified when he took over as prime minister, Mr Brown said. "Every time he changed jobs thousands lost their jobs. The recovery will only happen when John Major loses his."

Britain now had a government with no policy, a cabinet with no leader, a Chancellor "with virtually no Exchequer" and a prime minister with no ideas, no friends and soon no future, Mr Brown said. "Last week the Chancellor didn't just stop supporting the pound, he stopped supporting the prime minister, leaving him floating downwards to find his own level."

The conference passed a number of resolutions covering general economic policy, taxes and benefits, rights at work and union law, and pensions. But the national executive committee suffered a small setback when, against its advice, delegates voted in favour of a resolution demanding the repeal of the Child Support Act.



## Japan party baron gets token fine in cash scandal

FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

JAPAN'S shadowy leading political powerbroker is to be fined for accepting illegal donations.

Tokyo prosecutors yesterday filed a summary charge against Shin Kanemaru, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's "kingmaker", after he submitted a statement on Friday admitting that in 1989 he had accepted a political donation of 500 million yen (£2.3 million), some five times more than the legal limit.

Mr Kanemaru will not have to appear in court and it is expected that he will be fined about £900, the same penalty as that imposed on some traffic offenders and on those damaging bank notes or committing acts of indecency.

Mr Kanemaru is believed to have arranged with prosecutors to pay the fine in return for an end to any further

embarrassing investigations about his links with Sagawa Kyubin, the errand trucking company that paid him the £2.3 million, and with a group of prominent gangsters connected to the firm.

The humiliation resulting from the exposure of his involvement in the Sagawa affair - Japan's latest political corruption scandal, which involves more than 200 MPs - will be a more significant penalty for Mr Kanemaru, although few analysts expect him to go so far as to resign his parliamentary seat.

When it comes to political misdemeanours it is not easy to astonish the Japanese any more. Since the second world war, they have witnessed 18 big political corruption scandals, ostensibly humbling senior Liberals and triggering gushing apologies and promises of reforms. Unfortunately, for the crusading few in Japanese politics, dozens of opposition members are also implicated in the latest affair and in public they are remaining silent.

Yukio Aoshima, an opposition MP and leader of a minority party called the Nihon Club, began a hunger strike on Saturday to protest Mr Kanemaru's behaviour. Holding a placard reading, "Never pardon Kanemaru, the enemy of democracy", he was taken to hospital on Sunday when his condition suddenly weakened.

Kiyoshi Kaneko, the Liberal former governor of Niigata prefecture, was also charged yesterday over the illegal receipt of funds from Sagawa Kyubin. Mr Kaneko will have to stand trial.

Mr Kanemaru, 78, has been hiding out at his luxurious Tokyo home since standing down as Liberal vice-president a month ago. Titles do not count for much in Japanese politics and although he has never been prime minister, Mr Kanemaru has long been acknowledged as one of the two most powerful members of the political establishment. Along with Noboru Takeshita, a former prime minister, he takes credit for having hired and fired Japan's last four prime ministers. Evidence from past scandals suggests that Mr Kanemaru will be allowed to retain his influence.

Conveniently for the Liberals, members of the Socialist party, Japan's largest opposition party, are also implicated; and Makoto Tanabe, the chairman, is a friend and supporter of Mr Kanemaru.

Tales of Mr Kanemaru's alleged past transgressions have begun springing up. The Yomiuri newspaper dug up his memoirs in which he said: "The role of 'underworld staff' is to handle 'underground money' - money handed illegally to voters. I was in charge of 600,000 yen during the 1953 election."



Yawa choros: Taiwanese schoolboys dressed in ancient costumes and carrying batons decorated with pheasant feathers, waiting to perform a dance at the Confucius temple in Taipei yesterday to mark the anniversary of the Chinese philosopher's birth 2,542 years ago

## Peking to help end hostility

FROM WILLIAM BRENT IN PEKING

CHINA yesterday boosted prospects for a reunified Korea by suggesting it would use its influence over North Korea to help push forward the peace process.

In a historic summit ending 43 years of hostility, President Roh Tae Woo of South Korea met President Yang Shangkun of China and asked Peking to help persuade Pyongyang to open up its alleged nuclear weapons programme to mutual inspection. "It is most important that South and North Korea conduct mutual nuclear inspections," Lee Jung Ha, Mr Roh's press secretary, said.

Nuclear inspection is the main stumbling block to unification talks between the Koreas. China wanted a nuclear weapons-free Korea and would play a role in achieving peace, Mr Yang said.

International pressure on North Korea was "not desirable", Mr Yang said. But the foreign ministry suggested China would use its close links with Pyongyang to nudge the hardline communist government out of isolation. (AFP)

## Chinese back boy Buddha

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

FOR the first time since 1949, Tibet's communist rulers have approved the reincarnation of a living Buddha. In a three-day ceremony which ends today, an eight-year-old boy, O'kying Chilai, is being enthroned as the 17th Living Buddha of Garmaba, the head of the white sect of Tibetan Buddhism, with Peking's stamp of approval.

In this remote Himalayan region, however, where the Tibetans' hatred of their Han rulers frequently erupts in demonstrations, what appears to be a move by Peking towards increased tolerance of Tibetan Buddhism may mean the opposite. Peking is believed to be tightening its grip on the way Tibetans choose their spiritual leaders so as to control the choice of the next Panchen Lama. After the Dalai Lama, who lives in exile in India, the Panchen Lama is the most important Tibetan spiritual leader.

By approving O'kying Chilai as a reincarnated living Buddha, Peking has set a precedent and can claim the reincarnation of the Panchen Lama must receive such approval. The last Panchen Lama died in January 1989. According to Tibetan tradition his reincarnation should have been born the day he died.

The Panchen Lama was a useful middle man for Peking, playing a dual role as a loyal communist and a revered Buddhist leader. Towards the end of his life, he appeared to regret his association with Peking, and spoke out more forcefully on behalf of Tibet.

## Comforts of Tokyo go abroad with troops

BY JOANNA PITMAN

They lack only the glassy reception lounges milling with bell-boys, the statuary indoor waterfall and kidney-shaped swimming pools with aquatic cocktail bars to make their sojourn truly worthy of a five-star lifestyle. But the 600 members of Japan's Self Defence Force, arriving in Cambodia this month to join the United Nations peacekeeping operations, will have almost everything else one might expect from any Sheraton or Hilton hotel.

To the envy of bivouacking soldiers from the other 46 nations participating in the operation, Japan's blue helmets are being settled in with every possible comfort at hand. In their free time they might go to a Japanese cinema, curl up in the reclining seats of their muscle halls, browse in the library, tone up their muscles in a gym, or simply kill time in a games arcade.

Takeo, a small village south of Phnom Penh which will be the main Japanese camp, is likely to take on an air of Tokyo's Ginza. There will be bars and clubs and laser-disc karaoke parlours, broadcasting the amplified croonings of homesick squaddies. There will be

yen-friendly vending machines offering Japanese cigarettes, beer and sake. And, according to some reports, there will be massage parlours.

Local peasants may be astonished to watch huge satellite television screens being installed in special viewing rooms, and soldiers unpacking piles of video recorders, stereo systems and computer games.

Although their UN counterparts are coping as best they can with the clammy nights under canvas, the Japanese are intending to erect pre-fabricated sleeping quarters, equipped with air-conditioning and mosquito screens.

The leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), where memories of Japanese wartime atrocities are still vivid, have made it clear that they would prefer to continue receiving Japan's bankers and businessmen, rather than its soldiers. But fears of resurgent Japanese militarism appear at this stage unfounded.

Phnom Penh: Bulgarian peacekeepers serving with the UN in Cambodia will be given a pay increase after going on strike. (AFP)

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## Heroes and villains walk free after de Klerk strikes deal with Mandela to restart talks



Defiant salute: McBride, the ANC car bomber, punching the air after his release in Durban yesterday. Supporters gave him a hero's welcome

## Killers remain unrepentant as Pretoria grants amnesty

A STRANGE collection of heroes and villains came blinking into the sunlight from prisons all over South Africa yesterday.

Barend Strydom, a mass murderer who smiled as he shot dead six blacks and an Indian in the heart of Pretoria, because, he said, he hated blacks, smiled again as he was smuggled out of Pretoria jail. Khaki-clad right-wingers folded away the Boer republic's flag as he flashed by in a car and they missed the opportunity to welcome him. Strydom was remembered for his smile. After his killing spree in 1988 he told the judge who gave him eight death sentences: "During the shooting the wounded did not appear to appreciate the gravity of their situation. I smiled. I see myself as a friendly person. It was difficult to suppress my laughter. I smiled and carried on."

Also smiling yesterday was Robert McBride, a Coloured murderer from Durban, who received a hero's welcome from African National Congress supporters. Including Walter Sisulu, the ANC's deputy president, as he stepped out of Westville prison. McBride set off a car bomb outside Magoo's Bar, a popular beachfront café. Three young white women died and 69 people were injured.

"We will protect you," the crowd shouted, for McBride had been the victim of an attack by a hostile gang of inmates on the eve of his release. Armed with scissors and a padlock and chain, and allegedly encouraged by a prison warden, they were fought off by another group of prisoners. McBride was only slightly hurt. He said at a press conference later that he would take up arms again if the situation should require it, but he insisted that he would work for reconciliation now.

"Press reports about my case always say the victims were innocent civilians," he said. "But when the victims are black, like in Barend Strydom's case, then they are just blacks. If the situation was the same as in 1985, yes, I would take up arms again."

President de Klerk is steering a precarious path as he attempts to accommodate both the ANC and Chief Buthelezi, the Zulu leader, writes Michael Hamlyn from Johannesburg

McBride told the reception committee: "I am still not free — we still don't have the vote. If the people I killed had been black, I would have been freed in July 1991," he said. Asked if he thought there was any comparison between what he and Strydom had done, he said: "Absolutely none."

Curiously both McBride and Strydom were married while they dwelt on death row. Their wives were on hand yesterday to greet them. Paula McBride, the leftist daughter of a de Beers executive, works for the ANC-oriented Lawyers for Human Rights. Karen Rautenbach-Strydom runs a food stall in a tourist resort outside Pretoria.

Also freed yesterday were some professional assassins from the armed wing of the ANC, Umkhonto we Sizwe, the Spear of the Nation. Mzondeleli Nondulu was freed from Glamorgan prison in East London. Mthetheli Mncube, his co-defendant in 1986, was also freed from Pretoria jail. They were sentenced to life in prison for a series of landmine explosions



Strydom: murderer who kept smiling

in which seven people were killed. They had been trained outside the country, and when they were finally captured Mncube managed to get his hands free, grab an AK47 from his police escort and escape again. He killed two policemen in the process.

The release of prisoners who, President de Klerk said, had committed atrocious crimes for political reasons, was part of the deal which was struck so that the president

and Nelson Mandela, the ANC leader, could resume talks. The government had for long insisted that they could not be called political prisoners, but finally agreed to let them out.

More than 150 had been freed by yesterday. Another four hundred or more names are on a list the ANC has prepared which will be acted upon by November 15. The right-wingers freed are felt to have also committed "political crimes".

Among those released on Saturday were two who had necklaced *impimpi*, or police informers. "I was happy watching him burn," said George Skosana as he walked to freedom. "I would do it again if necessary." His cellmate, Lucky Malaza, described to reporters how he killed his man. "He was killing us, through what he was telling the police," he said.

"One day we grabbed him and took him before a people's court. By using force we got him to confess that he was an *impimpi*. The judge, one of the community elders, sentenced him to death. We put the tyre around him and poured petrol on him and lit a match. He screamed and screamed and tried to pull the tyre off, but could not. He took a long time to die."

Gloomy scenario, page 22

## President reassures Buthelezi

PRESIDENT de Klerk of South Africa wrote yesterday to Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, chief minister of KwaZulu and leader of the Inkatha Freedom Party, to discuss his weekend outburst against the deal struck at the summit between Mr de Klerk and Nelson Mandela, the president of the African National Congress. Mr de Klerk said that, in the light of the trust that he had developed with the Zulu leader, he would not respond publicly.

Chief Buthelezi, irascible and touchy, is and will remain important to the gov-

ernment's constitutional strategy, and it would clearly be counter-productive to offend him. "Perhaps he would command 10 to 15 per cent of the total vote in a national election," one observer said yesterday. "And unless the ANC wins that election by a landslide, that 10 per cent would be an important asset. De Klerk cannot be insensitive to Buthelezi. His whole strategy depends on an alliance between the National party and a series of regional parties, of which Inkatha is by far the most important."

But not everyone agrees

that Chief Buthelezi is a significant player. Tom Lodge, assistant professor of politics at Witwatersrand university, insists that although the government cannot go ahead without the ANC, all the other players are of secondary importance.

"He is not going to bring the government many votes, whether in or out of office," he said. "Much more sensible in the long term... would be for the National party to nurture the white vote and to build support among the conservative Coloured and Indian population."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Saddam opponents seek help from UN

Shapla: A new Iraqi opposition body, representing most of the factions opposed to President Saddam Hussein, which was set up in Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq this week, has appealed to the United Nations to use frozen Iraqi assets for humanitarian relief to try to prevent starvation in the country this winter (Claire Pountain writes).

The call was part of a declaration by the so-called Iraqi National Congress, grouping more than 30 opposition factions — including Shias, Kurds, liberals, communists, and independents. The group also announced that, after negotiations on quotas of ethnic, political and religious elements, the make-up of a 174-member national assembly for a democratic and pluralistic Iraqi government had been agreed.

Fears of a disaster in the north of the country after the cold weather starts in mid-November have already prompted the UN to draw up plans for a \$34 million aid programme. A fact-finding group from America, Britain, France and Turkey is expected to arrive in the area within the next fortnight to assess needs.

## Nigeria crash rescue held up

Lagos: Thick swamp and heavy rains hampered the efforts of rescue workers to recover the bodies of more than 160 young officers of the Nigerian military who were killed when an air force plane crashed north of Lagos on Saturday (Elizabeth Obadina writes).

The wreckage of a Hercules C130 transport plane, which nosedived minutes after take-off from Lagos for a military staff college in Jaji, lies buried in mud. Reports said 163 army, air force and navy officers had died, but the toll could rise above the 176 of Nigeria's worst air disaster in 1973. Experts were mystified by the crash, which robbed the military of a whole stratum of young officers seemingly bound for high rank.

## Border fence

Delhi: The Indian government announced that it would fence more than 500 miles of the border with Bangladesh by 1996 to keep out the tens of thousands annually who are illegal immigrants. (AFP)

## Guzmán trial

Lima: Abimael Guzmán, the leader of Peru's Shining Path guerrillas, appeared before a military court on treason charges. He will be sentenced within ten days and is expected to be jailed for life. (Reuters)

## Sure faith

New York: Most Americans believe that Jesus Christ will return in the next century. America will have a woman president and a cure will be found for Aids and cancer, a poll for Time magazine and CNN showed. (Reuters)

## Tourist threat

Srinagar: A leading Kashmiri militant group warned tourists to leave the troubled area in three days or they would "come to harm". (Reuters)

## Wobble factor

Auckland: At least 20 teenagers were treated for chemical burns to their eyes after a rugby club staged a jelly-wrestling competition. The gelatin in the jelly reacted with other ingredients. (AFP)

## Rabin calls for summit with Assad

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

YITZHAK Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, said yesterday that the key to peace with Damascus lay in the hands of President Assad and he urged the Syrian leader to hold talks with him.

In an interview with Israel radio marking the Jewish New Year, Mr Rabin said his wish for the coming year was that Israel would secure a peace agreement with at least one of the Arab participants to the present peace talks.

"With Syria I do not believe we will reach a solution without the involvement of the highest political echelons. Without this I do not see how it can be made clear to the Israeli public that Assad wants peace," he said. "The key is in the hands of the Syrians."

He described the current contacts with Syria, Lebanon and a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation, due to resume in Washington on October 31, as an interim measure and emphasised that he was seeking a repetition of the historic Camp David accords negotiated between the late Egyptian and Israeli leaders. "Without the involvement of the top political leader of an Arab country and Israel in the efforts to bring about peace I doubt if peace is attainable," said Mr Rabin.

He said that so far President Assad had shown no inclination to hold a summit meeting. He went on to question what exactly Fawuk al-Sharara, the Syrian foreign minister, meant last week when he by offering Israel "total peace" in exchange for a "total withdrawal" from lands captured by Israel in 1967. Asked about reports of Syria's attempts to build up its chemical weapons arsenal, Mr Rabin, a former general and defence minister, said that arms control in the Middle East would probably be the last area of negotiation after a regional peace treaty was signed. Pointing to the aftermath of Camp David, he said: "Egypt continues to modernise its armed forces, there is no let up in the purchasing of arms, just as there is no let up in our arming ourselves."

## Kuwait stock market reopens after war

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN KUWAIT CITY

WITH a prolonged ring on the trading bell and shouts from dealers peering through binoculars, Kuwait's stock exchange reopened yesterday for the first time since Iraq's 1990 invasion.

The resumption in dealing at the imposing marble and glass building was a potent symbol of reconstruction in the face of continuing Iraqi claims that oil-rich Kuwait is its nineteenth province. "This finally says goodbye to Saddam Hussein. It means our economy is gaining strength," said Abdullah al-Jarallah, the minister of commerce, who rang the bell amid clouds of incense. "Against all the odds, we are back in business."

Wafa al-Rashid, a stock exchange official, said many Kuwaitis preferred investing in shares rather than banks because interest, prohibited by Islam, was not involved.

Investors with millions of dinars locked into the market had expected prices of the 30 of 54 pre-invasion shares quoted yesterday to drop initially by up to half. But brokers

said that falls, notably in the key market share, the National Bank of Kuwait, were less than expected.

Annual prewar turnover on the exchange was \$3.3 billion (£1.9 billion). The exchange is modelled jointly on those in London and Singapore.

Conspicuously missing was the \$9 million computer system which was plundered by Iraqi soldiers and taken to Baghdad. Instead, much of the hectic early trading was conducted manually as dealers in white robes shouted instructions and onlookers gazed down from a balcony. Guests were served smoked salmon and strawberries.

The reopening was held less than a week before Kuwait holds its first parliamentary election since 1985. "With the prospect of a new parliament, the exchange open and the press free, things are better now than before the invasion," said an exchange researcher.

But some Kuwaitis argued that confidence was not sufficiently restored, and prewar investors would suffer catastrophic losses.



Perot: to decide by end of the week

## Perot keeps US waiting

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN DALLAS

ALL the elements that have made this year's presidential election one of the strangest in US history came together yesterday in a Dallas hotel where Ross Perot and his followers questioned Democrat and Republican delegations about their economic plans.

The Texas billionaire continued to flirt with the idea of renewing his challenge for the White House but yet again refused to commit himself. He said he would make up his mind by the end of the week.

## Free Angola election tests UN role in fostering democracy

FROM SAM KILEY IN LUANDA

ANGOLA votes today in its first democratic elections. The poll will be both a test of democracy in Africa and of the role of the United Nations in filling the power vacuum left on the continent by the end of the Cold war.

In the 48 hours leading up to polling, the UN is organising 320 flights to carry observers and election materials to the many parts of the country that remain accessible only by air because of mines laid during the long civil war between the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) and the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) which ended last year.

The presidential elections are a two-horse race between Jonas Savimbi, the Unita leader, and President dos Santos. But the 4.86 million registered voters, 75 per cent of them illiterate, will also be voting for 223 deputies in a new national assembly.

Up to last night, campaigning had been peaceful by African standards, although about 30 people have been

killed in clashes between Unita and MPLA soldiers in the past month. But the potential remains for a violent reaction by the loser when the results become known at the end of the week.

Intelligence sources have confirmed that both Unita and the MPLA have kept troops out of the demobilisation camps monitored by the UN and that Unita may still be holding Stinger surface-to-air missiles supplied by America in the late 1980s. Against this background, Margaret Anstee, the UN secretary-general's special representative to Angola, described the international community's logistical support for the elections as vital, although the UN's original mandate was merely to monitor the ceasefire and demobilisation of 150,000 troops on both sides and to verify the elections.

"We did not have the budget for much more but after pressurising the international community we have got more money and the loan of aircraft for the election days and the counting," Miss Anstee, a

former academic and Downing Street political adviser, said. "It's a bit Heath Robinson, but I am sure we'll be all right on the night. Logistics are a political issue, and if they break down then either side may use this as an excuse for saying that the elections were neither free nor fair."

Diplomats in Luanda, the capital, said the UN Angola verification mission (Unavem) under Miss Anstee had played a crucial role in keeping the elections on track and helping to take the heat out of violent incidents between the two sides. The experience in Angola is likely to be a model for a similar operation in Mozambique, another former Portuguese territory, where it is expected a peace agreement between the rebel Mozambique National Resistance and the government will be signed this week.

"Unavem has been a success so far, and if the electoral process breaks down the blame will rest with the Angolans and their leaders," one diplomat said here.

## Brazil awaits Collor's fate as congress prepares for showdown vote

FROM MAC MARGOLIS IN BRASILIA

Backed to the wall by protests and charges of corruption, President Collor de Mello of Brazil faces a showdown in congress today that could bring down his government.

His fate is in the hands of the 503 members of the lower house, who vote today in a special session on whether to remove him from power and authorise the senate to begin an impeachment trial.

The legislators will step up to the microphone on the congressional floor and one by one declare their vote in favour or against the president. If two-thirds of congress votes against him, Senator Collor will be automatically suspended from power.

Opposition leaders have vowed to mass protests by 300,000 people outside the

congress demanding impeachment. The authorities have deployed hundreds of police, security guards, vehicles and helicopters to ring the congress building.

In the run-up to today's vote legislators on both sides have claimed victory. The president's allies, the so-called "shoot troop" of attorneys and politicians who back him, claimed more than 220 votes, far more than the one-third of congress necessary to block impeachment. The opposition forces said they will muster 370 votes, comfortably over the two-thirds.

Senator Collor is charged with taking money and favours in one of the country's worst corruption scandals, commanded allegedly by his former campaign manager, Paulo Cesar Farias, and in-

volving hundreds of millions of dollars. Last weekend, Senator Farias was charged by police investigators on nine counts, ranging from bank fraud to influence peddling, which could bring him up to 51 years in prison.

If Senator Collor loses the battle in congress, he will be removed from office for up to 180 days while the senate begins the formal impeachment trial. In theory, he could return to power if the senate rejects the charges. However, political observers here say it will be nearly impossible for him to return to office once he has been suspended.

Impeachment would be a bitterly ironic end for Senator Collor, the young, dashing candidate who swept to power in 1990 promising a new deal for the "shirtless and

shoeless" Brazilians and to eject the corrupt from power. Virtually a political nobody, Senator Collor soared to national prominence less than five years ago when as governor of the small, wretchedly poor state of Alagoas he launched a crusade against overpaid and underworked civil servants.

He vowed in 1987 that "the government of change will not allow the people's money to be used by a small caste of the privileged". Those words came back to haunt him earlier this year, when his younger brother, Pedro, annoyed over a family business dispute, decided to take his grievances to the press. He told a sordid tale of a "mafia" of cronies who had installed themselves

in power, exacting bribes from businessmen and "selling" government contracts for fat commissions, all with the president's consent.

The denunciation hurt Senator Collor, who had won international acclaim for launching a bold plan of economic reform, imposing severe sacrifice on a recession-battered nation in the name of modernisation. A congressional investigation was begun, and three months later found that he had personally benefitted from Senator Farias' corruption ring, whose largesse included clothes and haircuts for his wife, Rosane, and building a £1.5 million garden at his private home.

Senator Collor vehemently denied all charges and swore not to resign. However, Bra-

zilans took to the streets by the tens of thousands, their faces smudged in funeral black, to demand his removal.

"We had a political project. We managed to change the agenda of Brazil," said Renan Calheiros, a former right-hand man to the president in congress. "But he just got too greedy. He thought he was untouchable."

A personal tragedy for Senator Collor may also mean a rare moment of glory for this country's tender democracy. In Brazil, where the military and autocrats have reigned through much of the century, presidents are generally removed by coups and cloak-room deals. The military is keeping out of the current turmoil and impeachment, though painful, is proceeding according to the constitution.



Rosane Collor: alleged to have got free clothes



## Amid denials of two-speed strategy, Germany and France lay plans for mini-Europe on the Rhine

# Bonn and Paris prepare for day Britain backs out

Ian Murray in Bonn and Charles Bremner in Paris report on Franco-German contingency plans for a mini-monetary union in Europe

ACCORDING to German newspaper reports, detailed contingency plans are being drawn up for a mini-monetary union in Europe, centred on France and Germany, in the wake of recent turmoil in the exchange-rate mechanism.

The plans have not been officially denied. But the Bonn government coalition parties yesterday made a point of rejecting out of hand any idea of a resulting "two-speed Europe".

The reports all emanate from Brussels sources, suggesting that they have been leaked by EC officials close to Jacques Delors in an effort to increase pressure on Britain to exercise its authority as current president of the EC's council of ministers to speed up the

ratification process. True or not, publication of the reports has caused acute embarrassment to the government. Inside the chancellery it is acknowledged that this kind of publicity plays into the hands of Eurosceptics, making it even more difficult to ensure that the Maastricht treaty is adopted or keeps to its timetable if it is.

Peter Hintze, the general secretary of the Christian Democrats (CDU), made it obvious yesterday that his party leader, Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, is acutely worried now that British opponents of the Maastricht treaty will be encouraged by the story. A two-speed Europe was "dangerous", Herr Hintze told jour-

nalists. Despite all the difficulties, he fervently hoped that the timetable for ratification of the treaty would proceed as planned.

In contrast, Count Otto Lambsdorff, leader of the Free Democrats (FDP), the junior partners in the coalition, described the Maastricht timetable for monetary union as unrealistic. He told *Bunte* magazine that he did not believe it was possible to start this from 1999, and he insisted that the Bundestag would

have to be given the final say before Germany entered such a system. His party president, meanwhile, issued a statement strongly condemning the idea of any kind of "mini-Europe". Discussion or even rumours of such a scheme were absurd and damaging to the future progress of the Maastricht treaty, they said in a statement.

Nevertheless, one of the chancellor's closest aides has confirmed that "emergency planning" has been going

ahead on creating a common autonomous bank with a seat in Frankfurt and headed by a Frenchman. The aim would be to look at the feasibility of setting this up in the event that Britain does not ratify Maastricht.

According to *Der Spiegel*, the idea was discussed between Herr Kohl and President Mitterrand when they met in Paris last week. The news magazine story was not only denied but described as "poison" and "completely fictitious" by the government, which last week also denied a report by *Die Welt* that the two had discussed a "mini-Europe" when they met.

Diplomatic observers here are sure that the two leaders did consider how to accelerate

European integration if Britain failed to ratify the treaty but that both agreed it was more important now to do all they could to help John Major. "If we can devise ways of interpreting and publicising the treaty in a way which calms the sceptics in Britain, then that will achieve much more than a two-speed Europe," one government official explained.

"A two-speed Europe would be a no-speed Europe because the Community would tear itself apart."

Nevertheless, the two-speed idea is winning growing support in Germany, particularly among bankers who are worried that a European system including weak economies would be unstable and would damage German interests.

Karl-Otto Pöhl, the former Bundesbank president, is calling for new negotiations to create a strong currency union, possibly including the Swiss and Austrians.

In Paris, Elisabeth Guigou, the European affairs minister, said yesterday that France is keen to help Britain ratify the Maastricht treaty but will not wait indefinitely.

The Elysée presidential palace announced that Mr Major would visit Paris tomorrow to discuss the future of European political, economic and monetary union with President Mitterrand. Mme Guigou had earlier said the talks would be held on Thursday.

"First of all we wish to do everything we can to help Mr Major, who is a sincere sup-

porter of ratification of the treaty, to persuade his parliament to ratify this treaty," Mme Guigou told radio Europe-1. "But we will also say naturally that we are not going to wait indefinitely."

Mr Major is due to meet Poul Schlüter, the Danish prime minister, in London tomorrow after returning from his meeting with Mitterrand. He will chair an emergency EC summit in Birmingham on October 10.

Mme Guigou said there could be no question of reopening the Maastricht treaty text. "This treaty must be implemented. We must act to make that possible."

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## Ministers jostle for place in Europe's financial fast track

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

EUROPEAN Community finance ministers, at their first meeting since the pound was pulled out of the exchange-rate mechanism, yesterday proclaimed their loyalty to the ERM while manoeuvring in case it founders.

Several ministers rushed to lay claim to a place in the fast-track of any two-speed European economy. Officially not one capital in the Community believes that Germany and France are preparing to take a select group of states into a single currency if the Maastricht treaty is not ratified by all 12 states. In practice, governments anxious to join were yesterday busy showing their credentials.

"I would like to stress that whatever happens, it is the policy of the Danish government to participate in the hard core of the ERM," said Anders Fogh Rasmussen, the Danish economic affairs minister. He implied that Denmark, which rejected key parts of Maastricht's prescriptions for monetary and political union in a referendum in June, would be happy to see the ERM's "narrow band" of permissible exchange-rate fluctuations made narrower.

The Irish punt has been

under severe pressure in the ERM during the past fortnight and yesterday interest rates rose to 13.75 per cent. Capital controls were reimposed last week. But in Brussels yesterday Bertie Ahern, the finance minister, stoutly asserted that Ireland intended to stay up with the leaders. "If there is a first group, we will be part of it," an Irish official said later. "All the fundamentals of our economy meet the requirements of that fast track."

Mr Ahern, the official added, had talked to Horst Koehler, the junior German finance minister, yesterday and obtained an assurance that Ireland would indeed make the grade. Herr Koehler is effectively the membership secretary for any inner club of the future.

At the pivotal meeting in the Dutch town of Apeldoorn a year ago, the EC's poorer economies were told that the Maastricht treaty would allow an unknown number of leading economies to forge ahead with economic union in 1999. If a single currency waited for the Greek economy to catch up, the argument ran, the single currency would never happen. "All were doing now," said one EC diplomat. "is pulling the diplomat

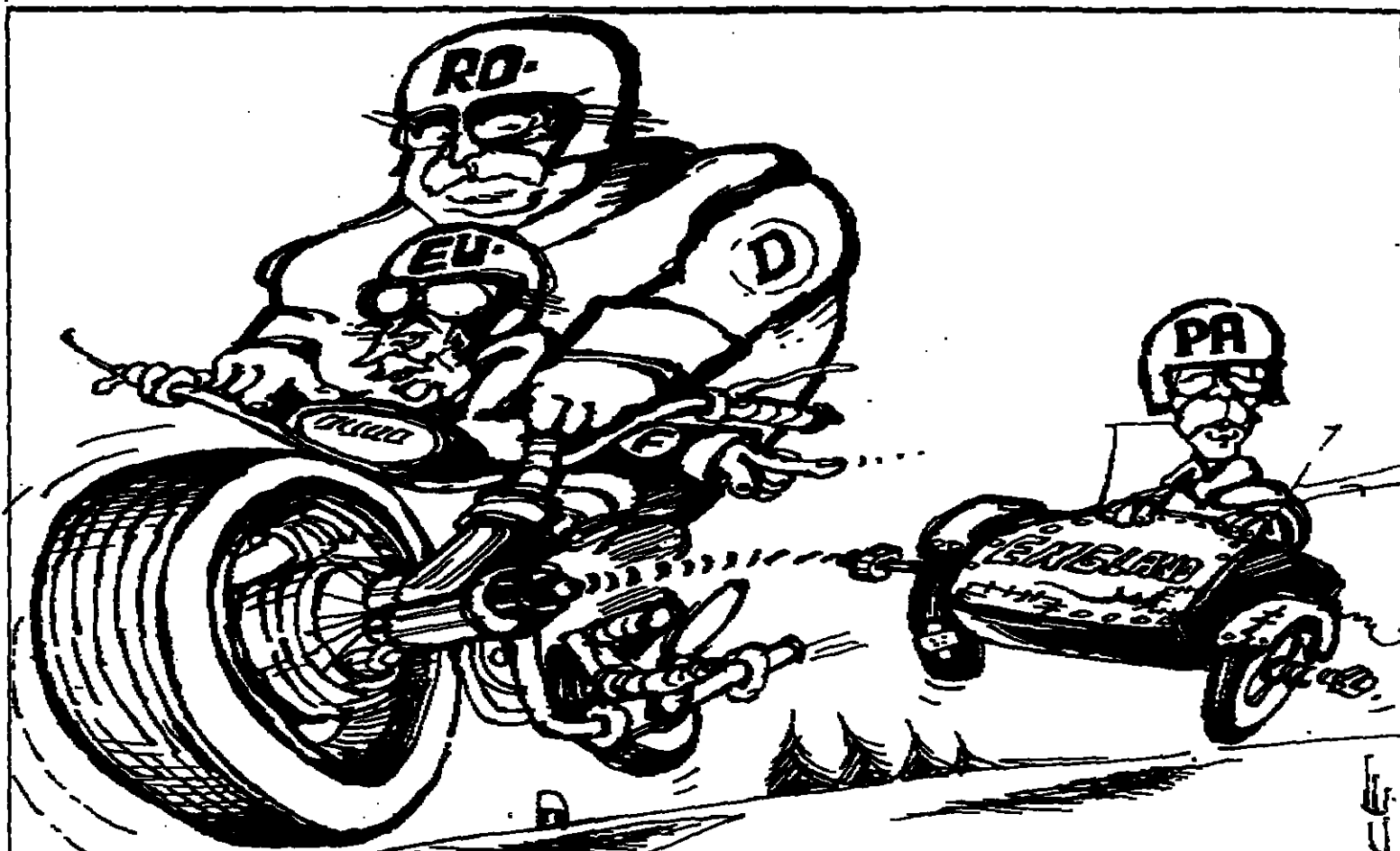
camouflage off the machinery we put into the treaty. Two speeds always has been inevitable now it's just more obvious than it was."

Before settling the fate of the treaty, the EC leaders who will meet in Birmingham on October 16 have to find a way of storm-proofing the ERM. Two members with vulnerable currencies, Spain and Ireland, have exchange controls in place. Italy has reneged on its promise to return to the ERM, and nobody in Brussels expects a rapid decision by Britain.

According to the Maastricht timetable, the governments should pick a site for the European Central Bank by the end of the year and start narrowing differences between exchange rates on January 1, 1994. The key decisions at Birmingham may effectively split the ERM into two groups: currencies heading for ever-narrower exchange-rate bands and the remainder in wider bands and liable to be devalued in realignments.

Whatever happens, Britain and Greece will form a third group outside the grid. Shortly after sterling left the ERM, John Major made a passing reference to Britain enjoying the same status as Greece inside the European monetary system but outside the exchange-rate mechanism. At present, the pound, Italian lira and Greek drachma all fit in this category. The currencies are built into the formula used to calculate the value of the ecu and the governments have signed the Maastricht treaty which commits them to make Europe's economies converge, although Britain can avoid joining the single currency.

Being paired with Greece outside a redrawn ERM would be politically ignominious for Britain but implies no onerous obligation. Athens claims that it will join the ERM at the end of next year, but few believe it. Greek macro-economic policy, which is effectively supervised in Brussels, has brought inflation down from 24 per cent to 15 this year but it remains the obvious laggard of the Community. But Britain and Greece may be joined by other refugee states if the ERM is confined only to countries heading for German-run monetary union before 2000.



Helmut on wheels: a cartoon in the *Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* with France telling Kohl, "Helmut, we need a two-speed Europe"

## Dead parrot passes on to Franco-German TV

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

AFTER all the weeks of German-bashing, France was treated last night to something it did not know it needed: a fully-fledged Franco-German television network.

*Willkommen-Bienvenue* to the world of Arte, a bilingual television idea whose time has come, at least in the view of President Mitterrand and Jack Lang, his culture minister. The Socialist president persuaded Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, into launching the scheme before their latest exercise in Euro-brotherhood, the Franco-German defence force.

The mission of Arte, financed by €142 million per year of taxpayers' marks and francs and operating out of Paris, Strasbourg and Baden Baden, is to promote understanding between the French and Germans and following soon with the Belgians. Like the EMS, other countries are being invited to join later to help create a single television "space".

The Euro-station is high-brow, offering *culture/kultur* in a babel of subtitles and

dubbing. The effect is a little like the forced bonhomie that used to characterise Soviet efforts to induce "friendship" among the people's democracies. French veterans of the wartime occupation are drawing darker comparisons.

Viewers on both sides of the Rhine might have been forgiven some confusion when they tuned into the broadcast last night and found a 20-year-old episode of *Monty Python's Flying Circus*. In the near-Maastricht world, however, John Cleese's famed sketch about the late parrot/feu perquet/verstorbene Papagei comes over just as well as a poly-glot.

After a try-out on cable in Germany and France during the summer months, Arte took to the prime time in France last night on the channel previously occupied by La Cinq, the commercial network which went bankrupt last December. There, to lure viewers away from the game shows and sexy soap operas, it offered a documentary on ancient Egypt. The centrepiece of the evening was Wim Wenders' *France*.

German film of 1987, *Wings of Desire*. That followed the 20.30 evening news, a surreal event with the Fellini-esque title *8-1/2* and no newsreader. The absent anchorman was one of many concessions to the cultural differences which weigh heavily on the station.

The Germans, for example, like long documentaries and discussions, while the French prefer more *divertissement*. The Germanic talk sessions are even more long-winded because of the needs of simultaneous translation.

Pre-recorded material gets by with sub-titles and dubbing. Another problem is sleeping habits. The Germans eat dinner and go to bed earlier, so the French are only starting on their first aperitif when Arte is into prime time. M Lang failed in an attempt to persuade the German partners, the state-run ARD and ZDF networks, to let France opt out of the most boring fare.

Tonight, viewers can look forward to a two-hour documentary on "26 days in the life of Dostoyevsky", which is



Opening fling: a scene from the Franco-German film *Wings of Desire* shown on the new Arte channel

part of one of the three nights per week devoted to a single cultural theme.

Reaction in France has mixed mockery with admiration for an heroic hybrid so clearly destined to fail all the standard tests of audience ratings. "Watching it is like having to take your bacca-laureat every night," joked

one critic. Speaking for the real intellectual classes, *Le Monde* yesterday sniffed at the professed disdain of Alain Meneval, the programme director, for attracting an audience. "Do they think at Arte that Molière or Mozart did not care about the public?" *Le Monde* wondered.

## Romanian elections

### Former communists hold sway

FROM ADAM LEBOR IN BUCHAREST

ROMANIA leapt back to the future yesterday as President Iliescu looked on course to continue his hold on power. Preliminary election results showed him comfortably beating Emil Constantinescu, his main rival for the presidency. At the same time Mr Iliescu's supporters in the Democratic National Salvation Front will almost certainly be the largest party in parliament and are likely to form a coalition government, probably in alliance with nationalists and socialists.

Gheorghe Funar, the extreme nationalist who ran on an anti-Hungarian ticket, is expected to receive 11 per cent of the presidential vote. If confirmed nationwide the results will make Romania the only country in Eastern Europe still governed by former communists.

Detailed preliminary results announced last night by

the election results committee revealed that Mr Iliescu was in a commanding lead with 46.8 per cent of the 2.1 million votes already counted. Mr Constantinescu, the Democratic Convention candidate, had 31.7 per cent and Mr Funar with 10.9 per cent.

The result is a serious blow for the Democratic Convention. Opposition figures contested the preliminary results, and some hinted that there had been electoral fraud such as marred the last general election in 1990.

But most of the more than 500 international electoral observers believe that, while there was room for improvement, there was no evidence of widespread malpractice. "There is great difference between the May 1990 elections and the current one, and that is not only my feeling," Rene Comblat, a Belgian observer, said. "I took part in

ballot counting at two polling stations and there is room for progress. But it is a matter of organisation which had no influence over the quality and fairness of the elections."

French observers said the elections were fair with no fraud and no incidents. But some of them said they were surprised at some organisational aspects which, while not illegal, could be a possible source of fraud.

Final results of the presidential contest will be announced on Saturday and for the 471-seat parliament on the following Tuesday. If, as seems likely, Mr Iliescu fails to win 50 per cent or more of the presidential vote, there will be a second-round ballot.

If enough votes transfer to Mr Constantinescu he could still take his seat in the presidential palace and he has promised to continue his campaign.

## Russia reinforces army as Tajik unrest grows

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA is to reinforce its military presence urgently in the troubled republic of Tajikistan in an attempt to stop rival factions there plundering its bases for weaponry and taking hostages to press their demands, the defence ministry here announced yesterday.

The emergency measure was announced after Russian troops had, with some difficulty, secured the release of 31 servicemen taken hostage by rival groups. It betrays Moscow's concern about the rapid deterioration in relations between Tajik fighters and former Soviet troops there.

An unspecified number of men will be moved urgently to support the 201st motorised rifle division deployed in the republic after what the ministry called "a dramatic worsening of the situation".

The ministry said: "Threats against the personnel of the Russian army, the capture of hostages, military hardware and combat weapons are be-

coming more and more frequent." The rebels had seized the men in an attempt to swap them for weapons, but agreed to hand over the hostages after an armoured convoy was dispatched. The convoy came under fire as it crossed the Vakhsh river, and two troops were wounded 50 miles south of Dushanbe. A team of army negotiators was sent from Moscow yesterday to try to secure the release of four officers still in the hands of Tajik fighters.

Georgia talks: Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian leader, held emergency talks with President Yeltsin yesterday on "saving" relations between the two republics as unrest and instability spread northwards from the Caucasus mountains and into southern Russia. The Russian parliament last week accused Georgia of violating the rights of Abkhazian separatists who are involved in a bitter armed stand off with the republic's forces.

Spain, which is among eight Nato countries that have offered troops or military support for the expanded UN force, has faced similar difficulties. A Spanish group is trying to reconnoitre Mostar, the town southwest of Sarajevo picked for the country's humanitarian efforts. There are reports that Spain is not happy

with the site, which is constantly under artillery fire. The unexpected setbacks have underlined the weaknesses in organisation at the UN, which lacks any form of military contingency planning capability.

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returned, but this is now not expected until at least the end of this week.

In the United States, General Colin Powell, chairman of the UN joint chiefs of staff, yesterday brought to the surface the tensions in the Bush administration over American policy towards Bosnia. In an interview with *The New York Times* he questioned the need to impose an air-exclusion zone, declaring that Serbian aircraft had done no more than "shadow" UN relief flights without posing a threat.

He also vigorously opposed Baroness Thatcher's suggestion that the West should undertake limited and surgical air strikes to deter the Serbs from shelling Sarajevo and other towns. He said: "As soon as they tell me it is 'limited', it means that they do not care whether you achieve a result or not. As soon as they tell me 'surgical', I head for the bunker."



## When marriage turns bloody

Should the law punish wives who are driven too far, asks Janet Daley

Men have an unfair advantage in the homicide stakes because there is a defence available to them when they murder their spouses which can scarcely ever apply to women. In this age of equal opportunities mania, such palpable injustice could not go unchallenged. The campaign to correct this inequality, of which we heard much last year during the Sara Thornton case, has been revived by the freeing last week of Kiranjit Ahluwalia.

If men are provoked into thoughtless violence which results in the death of their female partners, they may plead that loss of self-control releases them from responsibility for their actions. But women, even when provoked, are not physically capable of murder in a spontaneous fit of rage and thus almost never find themselves able to use the defence of "provocation".

It is sexist to suggest that slow-burning, impotent resentment is exclusively female

The fact that we must now be expected to excuse women's violence too, so that they will not be disadvantaged, is a testament to the influence of feminism on public debate. Or perhaps it is as much the final triumph of liberalism that we find nothing absurd in the idea that all groups in society should have an equal right to commit the ultimate crime, or to be let off once they have committed it. Those campaigning to change the law on provocation are asking the courts to treat men and women differently in a way which must, in the end, be damaging to the idea of female equality. It reinforces the stereotype of women as helpless, to argue that the only escape for a sane, adult wife might be through the murder of her captor. This is a free society. Only a woman depressed to the point of irrationality could see herself as a trapped slave.

To change the definition of what constitutes a crime like premeditated murder so that it means different things for different sexes or social groups is to create different classes of citizen and, what should be anathema to feminists, different degrees of moral responsibility for men and women.

The defence of provocation for men is a recognition of the obvious truth that men may genuinely lose control of their aggression and, with their superior physical strength, commit acts which they did not intend. Intention is the key to whether or not someone may be charged with murder. And intention is equated with forethought. For a woman to kill almost inevitably involves forethought since it requires the use of a weapon and this means that women who kill are almost always charged with murder. It also means that they kill less often.

To permit women to claim that they were provoked into killing their husbands even though the act was committed with forethought, would be to permit premeditated murder. It is no good saying, "But she couldn't have done it any other way." The object is not to give

everyone an equal crack at murder — to level the playing field so that we all get a fair chance at the goal. We are still in the business of trying to prevent the taking of life rather than inventing new ways to sanction it, aren't we?

What happened in last week's retrial of Mrs Ahluwalia is being taken as a victory by the "provocation" reform lobby although the defence of provocation played no part in the fact that she was freed by the court. The injustice in her case was clear: she should never have been charged with murder at all, but with manslaughter because the psychological state to which she had been reduced by her husband's mistreatment resulted in diminished responsibility. The court rectified this wrong and decided that the time she had already served was sufficient punishment for the manslaughter charge. This outcome could just as easily have occurred with a male defendant who had, say, been bullied by an employer to the extent that he was depressed and demoralised. From the feminist point of view, it is neither here nor there, and it certainly has no bearing on the question of provocation which was disallowed in this case just as it was in Sara Thornton's.

Women who kill their violent husbands with forethought have certainly been provoked. They may even have committed a form of justifiable homicide. But they have not "acted under provocation". If we enlarge that concept to include what we are now being told is the typically female slow burn of anger, then we are legalising revenge killing. It is sexist to suggest that slow-burning, impotent resentment is exclusively female: it is an emotion familiar to many sensitive, powerless men, some of whom go on to commit carefully planned murder. Should they be allowed this expanded defence of provocation, or is it reserved for women?

Either way, what we would be saying is that victims of other people's cruelty are entitled to take the law into their own hands: if the cruelty was severe enough, then the crime is not murder, however premeditated it was.

There are two quite different problems which have become entangled in this debate. One is the victimisation of women by violent men. Protecting women from domestic violence is a matter of police attitudes and enforcement of the existing laws. It is a counsel of despair to say that the remedy for male brutality is to licence wives to commit murder.

Susceptible to quicker remedy is the mandatory life sentence for murder which means that the battered wife who kills out of desperation is treated in the same way as the psychopathic serial killer. The reform which we need is one which would allow every murder and its mitigating circumstances to be treated as an individual case, whatever the murderer's gender.

## Both Labour and Tories ignore the underclass, the moral failure of our time

Yesterday in Blackpool, speaking for Labour's National Executive Committee, Tom Sawyer told delegates what was wrong with their party. He quoted an engineering workmate: "Tom, we're going up. Labour only cares about people going down." To win, we all chorus, Labour must change that.

Seven years ago, when an MP, I wrote an article in *The Times* about three pathetic young hitchhikers to whom I had given a lift up the M1. Mr Sawyer's chum would have identified them as "going down". They made a strong impression and I wrote about it.

"The ginger-haired boy had sunken cheeks, a pasty face, and many studs in his nose and ears. He looked as though he wouldn't get up if you knocked him down. The blond boy looked as though he would have run away before you had time to hit him."

I still remember his careworn face and nervous eyes. I have learned since to recognise, in the old-young features of those we call inadequate, the mark left by terrific anxiety in childhood. Busy, rich, successful people sometimes assume that at the bottom of the heap one could at least relax. "It's tough at the top" we say. But the haunted faces of the deprived suggest strain of an intensity we scarcely know. It's tough at the bottom actually.

I helped them spell "Liverpool" on a piece of cardboard before leaving them at Watford Gap. They had never been north of London, had little idea how to find the person they knew and hoped to stay with on Merseyside, and no idea where, or how big, Liverpool was. They were looking for "a spot of bother". They would probably get caught. I left them with a heavy heart.

"My three passengers were not very bad people, nor were they at all good — nor 'misunderstood', nor 'interesting' nor 'worthwhile' underneath. They were shallow and underdeveloped and, most of all, they were weak. Yet they were capable of all kinds of harm... The gross cost to the state of each of their lives will be staggering: but it will be paid and they will be contained, and that is the happy — or sad? — truth of it."

That article, "Going Nowhere", was about those at the bottom of the heap, and their hopelessness. We have since coined a fashionable term, "the underclass", but the facts and the people remain the same.

I simply ask: who cares? Where now is the constituency of the deprived? Is it really on the left any more? Do these people even vote? The opposition parties need the underclass like a hole in the head. Their politicians well know that concentrating on losers only dulls a party's shine among the upwardly aspirational voter it needs to attract. By "underclass" I do not mean the less well-off. I do not mean those on below average earnings, the bottom half, the bottom third, the bottom quarter — no, not even the bottom tenth. I mean no more than one in 50 — a million people, perhaps. How do I identify that 2 per cent? Not by income alone. Although almost all of them must be very poor, there are millions of others on basic incomes who are not a social problem and whose condition, while uncomfortable, is not wretched. I do not call such people the underclass. They keep their heads above water and their lives have shape and hope: they can, and many of them will, move up as well as down, when circumstances change or life-chances come their way.

## What shall we do about the poor?

Matthew Parris on how poverty became a dirty word



Hogarth's Gin Lane: our attitude to despair and depravity has changed little in two centuries

I say this — many would challenge it — in the belief that the state provision is a viable floor, for people who are able to stand, to stand upon. But social or psychological damage can leave people in too much of a mess to manage on what the state provides, use help, or take chances that may be offered. It is a depressing group to work with. Not — as a generalisation — nice people, not deserving or virtuous. Anything but ready to take advantage of an even break.

They are not, for the most part, satisfying as clients. Their lives are in pieces and their inadequacies are wrecking the lives of the children they begot and parent with helpless abandon. I believe this is, in a necessarily imprecise way, a group identifiable by criteria other than income alone.

Perhaps 2 per cent of the population, they occupy three-quarters

of the problem council estates. half the prisons and two-thirds of the magistrates' courts. They take up much police time. They are an almost unbelievably expensive section of society, a running sore but in no sense life-threatening to the state. Anti-social and inadequate, they are not smart enough to co-operate, and much of their crime and aggression is directed at each other. These are the stuff of which smashed bus-shelters and battered children, not revolutions, are made. Spoilers not wreckers, we can live with them, chucking the aspirins of state welfare — free, bad housing and cigarette money at them — and hoping that indolence, stupidity and television, will keep them out of too much harm.

But is that all we can do? What are the limits to our generosity? In my estimation the charity of the British electorate would and will carry a few million of the weakest of

its countrymen — a few per cent. But it will not carry 10, 20, 30, 40 per cent. Those on the left who have tried to load more bodies in the welfare lifeboat than the vessel will bear deserve a share of the blame for the cold-hearted cynicism with which Britons now approach any claim on their conscience from those less advantaged than they.

If, now, we are to weigh what it would be practicable and affordable to do in order to break cycles of depravity and deprivation among the inadequate, we must start by making a clear distinction between underclass and lower class. Statistical sleights of hand which have pointed to that great mass of the population living on an income below the median line and called it "poverty", have done the most enormous injury to the very poorest. They have brought the whole concept of deprivation into the mire, dragging it into the

twilight world of half-truth and political weaselly. Spokenmen from the poverty lobbies and politicians from the left are particularly in blame. Poverty lobbyists, often to reinforce their own status and careers, have tried to enlarge the constituency of what they call "the needy" or "desperate", hugely inflating its numbers to the point of discrediting the very words. If you stretch anything too wide, it breaks. Most Britons will not accept that (in their use of the term) a quarter, or a third, of their countrymen are "poor".

Socialist politicians have used the Trojan horse of "urgent need" to conceal their hidden ambitions for general income redistribution. There may be a case for further income redistribution: that is for ideological debate. But those on the left who have muddled wealth and equalisation with the argument about helping the small minority whose condition is truly pitiable, have done a real disservice to the weakest citizens of all: for the result has been that the British middle classes have heard the argument about poverty, noticed who is advancing it, not a rat, and looked away. Most, I judge, reject the argument for equalising society, but are ready to hear the argument for repairing an unequal society.

It is time for the Conservative party to repossess this argument. Ever since the post-war Labour victory, Tories have ceded to socialists the intellectual initiative over helping the poor. Put crudely, the thought has been that Labour are much in favour of it while the Tories are in favour, but not so much. Labour were there to be kind, the Tories to be careful. Nobody, it seemed, was there to think. Labour have posited an ambition — and the Tories have halved it.

And the debate has been all about sums. The quality and strategy of the campaign has been defined mostly from the left, mostly in terms of straight cash handouts. It has slewed into general income redistribution, failed its beneficiaries and exhausted its benefactors, and come a terminal cropper. The left have now lost their authority (indeed the opposition have lost their interest) in this debate.

I think the Tories have a moral responsibility to revive it. To do so will anger libertarians and worry Treasury ministers but to both I offer this thought. If, as I suggest, we can get away from the argument that there is a simple equation between income and need — the "neediest" being just the bottom x per cent — then we have escaped a powerful Conservative objection to welfare. The objection is that there is no natural limit to the relief of comparative poverty: but helping the poorest creates new demands all the way up the line, raising stakes but never removing "the bottom x per cent".

My thought is that we define our target group differently, and in more subtle ways, which must include delinquent or inadequate behaviour as well as the income of the individual or family. My further thought is that this group is quite distinctive, finite, and rather small, though helping it will be enormously expensive per capita.

My final thought is that just giving such people money will solve little: many personalities will prove resistant or even untraceable: that breaking the parent-child cycle of disorder will have to be a priority; and that some difficult judgments and possible infringements of liberty may arise... not a programme, just some thoughts. It is time they began.



## ...and moreover CRAIG BROWN

I was with the very greatest pleasure that I — Craig Brown from North Essex, attended the Annual Dinner of Late-Night Phone-In-Callers. You can always be sure of a really lively interchange of topical opinions and forthright views at this annual night out.

As we entered the dining room, The Chief Barker yelled out our names and current opinions. "Charles from Islington!" he shouted as the gentleman two in front of me moved to the head of the queue. "Hates the ERM, would never trust a Gerry, wants to know frankly who won the war and can recommend household bleach as an effective stain-remover!"

I noticed a slight hush as Charles from Islington trotted down the stairs into the dining-room. In the past few years, he has made quite a name for himself by expressing his frank and punchy views regularly on the Late-Night Phone-In Circuit. Indeed views of his such as "Frankly, there must be something in this Loch Ness Monster thing" and "who does that Jacques Delors think he is, then?" have earned him the respect of all his fellow phoners.

Within seconds, the Chief Barker was on to the next guest. "Deirdre from Staines!" he belted. "Thinks British Rail an absolute disgrace, would never do the Queen's job, not for a million pounds and much preferred Mrs Major as she was!"

As you probably know, Deirdre from Staines is also something of a name to conjure with in the world of the phone-in. She got her big break at 3.15 in the morning on LBC in September 1992. There was a temporary fault on the line to Richard from Woking, the then unknown Deirdre from Staines was given an amazing four minutes 15 seconds on how she would put the Great back in Britain, and the rest is history. Deirdre from Staines has now spoken on over 220 phone-ins nationwide, on subjects as diverse as the Channel Tunnel ("you wouldn't catch me in there, I can tell you") and Fergie ("Frankly, I never felt comfortable with her, not ever") and she is currently putting the finishing touches to her views on South Africa ("high time they all got round a table and did something about it") for the forthcoming autumn season of *Call Nick Ross* on Radio 4.

The soup course went very smoothly, though Ken from Tring, the home of the phone-in, had strong opinions about the "crying need" for a truly effective soup-spoon, and Rob from Aberdeen said that it was "a well known fact that at least 40 per cent of most soup is just water", suggesting that it was high time that this so-called government took effective action.

The main course — roast chicken and two veg — gave rise to a three-way discussion between Rob from Aberdeen, Deirdre from Staines and Charles from Islington on the rights and wrongs of factory farming. "Let's put the Great back in Britain," said Deirdre. "There must be something in this factory thing," said Charles, sticking his neck

out. Rob thought it high time this so-called government took effective action. It was just as the cheese arrived ("I trust this cheese is pasteurised in strict accordance with government standards," said Charles) that I realised that everyone around the table was single. "I was married once, to June from Dulwich," said Ken from Tring. "But we couldn't agree on Britain's future in the ERM, so we thought it best to split. The children decided to go with June, but then they were always confirmed Euro-sceptics."

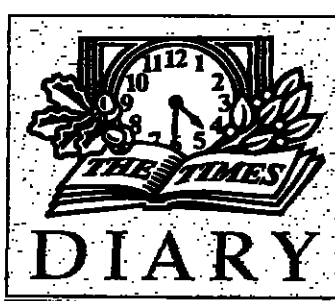
Deirdre from Staines had a similar tale of woe. "It was the Channel Tunnel that did it for us," she told me, ruefully. "My ex-husband — Stuart from Wisbech, you've probably heard him — always claimed in the privacy of our own home that he fully supported my brave stand against this monstrous intrusion into our once-great island. But then I turned on the kitchen radio one morning and who did I hear? It was Stuart, calling from upstairs, declaring to Nick Ross that the Channel Tunnel was a triumph of technological know-how, a beacon for international goodwill. The minute he got off that phone, I was onto my lawyers. He's now seeing Peggy from Worsop, but everyone knows where she stands on EC farm subsidies, so I don't give it long."

## And then there's wealth creation

BARONESS Thatcher's £9.5 million, revealed in the list of Britain's wealthiest women this week, may seem modest in comparison with the vast wealth of Britain's aristocracy. When one realises the fortune has been amassed almost exclusively since she left office less than two years ago, the sum becomes considerably more impressive.

The Thatcher millions have not gone unnoticed among her former colleagues. One junior minister entertaining three bankers earlier this year griped over the brassy about the rapidly-growing Thatcher millions. His guests assumed he was discussing the Thatcher Foundation. "I mean the money in her own handbag," the minister retorted.

"The Thatcher Foundation, which for tax reasons is based in Switzerland, should not be confused with her personal wealth and earnings," says Kevin Cahill, who compiled the wealth list. Lady Thatcher's most loyal agent, her son Mark, is reported by local American papers to have sold his Dallas home and moved to Switzerland, where he has a penthouse apartment overlooking Lake Geneva. Yesterday Lady Thatcher's office refused to comment on the reports but the number they provided for Mark Thatcher's office in Dallas was out of operation. Lady Thatcher's office also refused to comment on her personal wealth and would not say in which country the former prime minister files her income tax return. "It is a private matter," says a spokeswoman.



US and the Far East". If she continues to earn at the rate she has done since leaving office — and some reports now suggest Lady Thatcher can earn £1 million in a single month — she will rapidly rise from her humble position at number 134 in the list. On current form expect her to overtake the Queen Mother sometime next year.

Barbara Castle proved she has lost none of her celebrated fighting spirit as she arrived in Blackpool this week. Settling into the back of a taxi at the railway station, Baroness Castle, 81, directed the driver to her hotel. But the driver, with his meter switched off, insisted on trying to cram further passengers into the car. When Castle objected, her suitcases were dumped on the pavement and she was ordered out of the car. Castle may have mellowed with age, but not much. "Young man," boomed the unmistakable tones. "Put those bags back. Do as you are told. And do it now." Of the same followed in vintage Castle style and she was soon on her way — without the additional passengers.

Teachers' favourite AS Neil Kinnock found a new role in Blackpool yesterday. Charles Clarke, his former chief aide, may also be about to find employment. Clarke's name is being linked with

the post of general secretary of the 31,000-strong Association of University Teachers. Diana Warwick stands down from the job tomorrow.

Clarke's main rival for the post is Neil Stewart, another former key figure in Kinnock's office. The two men have similar credentials, both having served as presidents of the National Union of Students. The burly Clarke is much in evidence in Blackpool this week, enjoying his first conference in many years without the burden of office and playing down talk of the AUT job. But sources insist that Clarke remains the favourite.

Since the election of John Smith, Clarke, who worked for Kinnock from 1981 and would have become chief-of-staff in Downing Street had Labour won, has been unemployed. He has talked of becoming a parliamentary lobbyist but many feel Clarke's bluff, no nonsense style would ideally suit him to the AUT job. John Patten has rejected the university teachers' pay deal and the new union leader, who will be appointed next month, will be on an inevitable collision course with the government — a position Clarke will surely relish.

## Out of sight...

THERE was some surprise among his guests last night that Jeremy Isaacs had chosen the London Fields gallery in Hackney rather than the plush surroundings of the Crush Bar at Covent Garden, to celebrate his 60th birthday. Perhaps his decision is more understandable in view of today's board meeting at the Royal Opera House which is due to consider the renewal of Isaacs' contract.

Angus Stirling, the chairman of Covent Garden, missed the party, detained by the first night of *Fidelio* at the House. Bamber Gascoigne was present, however, repre-

senting the board. But the question on most lips was would Isaacs take the opportunity to invite Peter Brooke, the new National Heritage Secretary? He had a difficult relationship with David Mello and the party could have helped to establish better relations with his successor. "We are unaware of any invitation from Mr Isaacs," said a spokesman for Brooke yesterday. "Do you think he is meant to be there?"

Nigel Lawson and the journalist John Diamond took even closer friends by surprise when they quietly wed in Venice on Friday. But the city is, after all, the romantic capital of Europe and as Lawson, the daughter of the former chancellor, was on holiday in Italy with her partner it seemed like a good idea.



Yet the Italian authorities are not easily persuaded to marry foreigners and the Foreign Office felt it could not assist. So how did they do it? "I persuaded them because I had lived in Italy as a teenager," says Lawson. The rumour that the couple had met in Venice may have helped, too. Friends say that over the copying machine at The Sunday Times is probably a better bet.





## ENDING THE EURO-SCHISM

Two separate questions have become confused in Britain's post-devaluation debate over the economy and Europe. Should Britain ratify the Maastricht treaty? And should sterling rejoin the exchange-rate mechanism? These are best seen as distinct issues, but in the feverish atmosphere of last week's recall of Parliament, they have been rolled together into a crude litmus test: are you for or against "Europe"?

Even a few days have produced dire results. The cabinet and the Conservative party are splitting over irrelevances instead of uniting to seize the opportunities presented by freedom from the ERM. A prime minister who not long ago won a great electoral triumph seems to be losing his grip on power.

No miracle is needed to heal the great European schism, only some clear thinking. To pull his party and government back together Mr Major must recognise two realities. First, withdrawal from the ERM has transformed Britain's economic prospects. Secondly, life outside the ERM has transformed Britain's relationship with Europe and the significance of the Maastricht treaty for that relationship. Until September 16, ERM membership, Maastricht ratification and domestic monetary policy were bound together. This need no longer be so.

Mr Major owes the British people a referendum on the Maastricht accord. It would provide an excellent opportunity to air complex arguments about fixed exchange rates and federalism, subsidiarity and their economic impact.

The bad news is that he seems still implacably opposed to that course. The good news is that if he insists on helping his European partners by moving to ratify the Maastricht treaty, he can at least do so with the minimum further damage to the economy.

During any ratification debate, fears about federalism encroaching on Britain's political sovereignty would have to be addressed separately through clearer definitions of subsidiarity and restrictions on central decision-making, as Denmark is

already demanding. Provided Mr Major made clear that he would not re-enter the ERM in the foreseeable future, ratification would have little or no effect on Britain's new freedom of economic manoeuvre.

The British government said from the beginning that its main objective in negotiating the treaty was to protect Britain from the excesses of Euro-federalist ambition. In principle, this was to some extent achieved through the opt-outs and restrictions on European Community competence painstakingly negotiated by Mr Major. But in practice, there were justifiable doubts about the possibility of exercising Mr Major's opt-outs, so long as Britain remained in the ERM. The Danish referendum also cast doubt on the adequacy of the safeguards against centralisation that Mr Major had demanded in the text of the treaty.

As long as the government believed that the pound must be stabilised for ever at its ERM parity of DM2.95, movement towards EMU was the only logical result, regardless of opt-outs. While Britain was in the ERM, therefore, ratification of Maastricht was rightly seen by both Euro-sceptics and Euro-enthusiasts as the decisive battle in which the future of Britain's relationship with Europe would be settled.

All of these calculations have now been transformed. Maastricht may still be critical to France, Germany and Belgium, but as long as sterling is kept outside the ERM, it is not so critical for Britain.

Once Mr Major has made an unequivocal promise that Britain will not rejoin the ERM in the foreseeable future, he can argue that Maastricht is no longer a crucial matter in itself. He would be acknowledging that ERM membership makes sense only as the penultimate step on the road to an irrevocable monetary and political union.

Mr Major must promise that sterling will not go back into any European currency system unless the people of Britain decide to be part of a federal European state. As the inadequate process of parliamentary ratification draws nearer, this promise should be the Euro-sceptics' price for ratifying the filleted corpse of Maastricht.

## BEYOND OPTING OUT

The opprobrium of the education world is piling up in John Patten's office following Friday's deadline for responses to his white paper on schools. Yesterday's opposition from the National Union of Teachers was only to be expected, but even the grant-maintained schools themselves have expressed doubts about the government's plans for a new framework for state education. Mr Patten put a brave face on his isolation yesterday when addressing a CBI conference on the white paper, but he will know better than anybody the extent of the criticism heaped on certain key proposals.

There is a danger, however, that the debate on the future of the education service will become merely a sterile exchange on the merits of opting out. However justified the criticisms of centralisation were, there is little doubt that opting out is here to stay. Labour almost admitted this soon after the election, though it may revert to a hard line in Blackpool this week. Although the expected avalanche of applications for grant-maintained status has yet to appear, the sector will be too large for any government to abolish by the time this Parliament has run its course. This government has a clear mandate to press ahead with opting out, and many schools are only waiting to hear the details of the new arrangements.

Opting out has to be made to work in tandem with the local education authorities if state schools are to meet the ambitious targets set by ministers. For good or ill, the days of a monolithic education system are over. Mr Patten tried in his white paper to piece together a system from the patchwork left by his predecessors, proposing to share responsibility in the delicate area of school admissions and forcing grant-maintained status on only those schools deemed to have

failed under local authority stewardship. In trying to square the circle, however, he has created further uncertainty at a time when the education service yearns for nothing more than stability. Parents cannot be certain from year to year which body will control their children's destiny, and can have little confidence that organisations with little in common but mutual mistrust will be able to work together.

Mr Patten would do well to listen to the head teachers, who are lobbying for maximum control of their own budgets while education authorities survive, and a clean break where town halls have lost the confidence of most parents. Better such a solution than the lingering death envisaged for the authorities in the white paper. Shocked into action by the threat of opting out, many authorities once notorious for sloth and inefficiency are fast becoming the responsive, consumer-led organisations they should always have been. Opting out may still appeal to thriving, well-managed schools with parental expertise on tap, but others will be reluctant to sacrifice the knowledge and experience of local education officers. Indeed, the failing schools that will be forced to opt out under Mr Patten's proposals may be least able to do without such support.

If the white paper's title of *Choice and Diversity* is to mean anything, both routes should be allowed. There is more consensus over education than meets the eye. The principles behind the national curriculum and greater management autonomy for schools are well accepted. What matters most for pupils is not the detail of the bureaucratic structure of the education system, but the restoration to state schools of a feeling of ownership and local pride.

## NOUVELLE CUISINE ANGLAISE

A *bombe surprise* is being dished up to the foodies of England today, with the decision by the *The Good Food Guide* to demote one of the Roux brothers' restaurants to a third-class rating. This will be as much of a shock to those Elysian pastures of class browsing and snuffing, as though on an earthier pitch Newcastle United were to be demoted to the GM Vauxhall Conference — a cataclysm that has seemed possible in the past, though mercifully not so far this season.

The Roux brothers are the Frenchmen who formed part of a revolution in English attitudes to food 30 years ago. Before they came over, eating was often felt to be a shameful activity to be performed in the decent privacy of an Englishman's home — or failing that in a hotel approximating as close as possible to the Englishman's home — in silence, with gravy, custard, over-stewed "greens" (a recipe invented for English false teeth and phobia about constipation), and other dismal appurtenances.

In the 1960s the Roux brothers and their peers introduced to Britain the novel notion that food was one of the pleasures of life, and that it is nowhere written down in *Magna Carta* que les anglais s'amuseient tristement selon l'usage de leur pays. Two of their restaurants are the only two in Britain to be awarded the top mark of three stars by Michelin, the French *Almanach de Gotha* of the eating arts. One of these, the Waterside Inn at Bray, has today been downgraded by one of the freelance British food inspectors set up in imitation of Michelin. As downgradings go, this is not as verbal a fall as Lucifers, being merely from

"excellent cooking" to "a particularly fine example of very good cooking". But for the superstars of *haute cuisine* and their gourmet fans who are prepared to pay £100 for a three-course meal before wine and fizzy water (and for the publicity machine and snobbery that keep them all simmering) this is a serious blow.

The changes in the British attitude to eating out over the past generation have been categorical and beneficial. Bistros-eating has spread from Aberystwyth to Middlesbrough, and Britain has developed its own curry cuisine, as distinctive as the American Chinese. All but the most macho pubs (mainly in the West of Scotland) now serve bar snacks of considerable ambition, even though most of them, *pace* the advertisements, are heated up by microwave rather than home-cooked. Chips tasting of cardboard are no longer obligatory with everything, except in motorway service stations, and the obsession with health has vastly improved the British attitude to greens.

There is no need to go the whole hog with the French in treating food as a substitute for religion. Yet there is no love more sincere than the love of food. The British attitude to these things needs to be empirical and cool, as the French is theoretical and windily metaphysical. The improvement in British food, from the top, encouraged by cooks like the Roux brothers, to the lowliest greasy spoon café, is wholesome. But the uproar about subjective and spurious star-ratings of overpriced restaurants, visited mainly on expense accounts, leaves a sour taste.

## Commonwealth library threat

From the High Commissioners for Uganda, Belize, Western Samoa, Cyprus and New Zealand and the Acting High Commissioner for Pakistan

Sir, As High Commissioners representing different regions of the Commonwealth, we are dismayed that the Royal Commonwealth Society's Library is at risk and could be broken up and dispersed around the world because of the financial difficulties it faces.

We wish to state how important this unique collection is to all our countries and to the Commonwealth. It must be saved and placed in the public domain for ever. It is, quite simply, irreplaceable.

An appeal to save this unique collection will be launched tomorrow by Sir Patrick Sheehy and his fellow library trustees, and we urge that their efforts be met with firm financial support. We believe that the Commonwealth is a power for good in today's turbulent world — this library explains why.

Yours etc,

GEORGE KIRYA (Uganda),  
ROBERT LESLIE (Belize),  
A. TOLEAFOA (Western Samoa),  
ANGELOS ANGELES (Cyprus),  
GEORGE GAIR (New Zealand),  
KHALID M. SHAH (Acting High Commissioner, Pakistan),  
Uganda High Commission,  
Uganda House,  
58 Trafalgar Square, WC2,  
September 28.

## London clean-up

From Dame Shirley Porter

Sir, Making our cities clean, affordable and attractive to tourists is as important as any other long-term investment for the future prosperity of this country.

For when we emerge from recession I suspect that many people will prefer to spend their income enjoying themselves rather than buying assets which land them in debt and go down as well as up in value.

Tourism is London's biggest industry. Thousands of jobs and companies depend on it. Keeping cities clean isn't easy. It took ten years to turn the tide in Westminster. We ran campaigns for a cleaner city, provided more litter bins than anywhere else in the UK, sponsored our own acts of Parliament, launched the Perfect Street, and dozens of other schemes.

We enrolled schoolchildren, hoteliers, businesses and over 5,000 local citizens in a task force against litter. Now that the city is clean hopefully it can be kept clean.

The top priorities for the future must include improving public transport, providing more low-cost hotel accommodation and ensuring that our city looks attractive the whole year round.

This year's disastrous decision — or lack of co-ordination — to cloak major tourist attractions in unsightly hoardings during the peak summer season must never be repeated. If London is to win more tourists it must deserve to do so.

Yours sincerely,

SHIRLEY PORTER  
(Leader, Westminster City Council, 1983-91),  
4 The Chambers,  
St James's Court Hotel,  
Buckingham Gate, SW1,  
September 15.

## Control of squirrels

From Viscount Ridley

Sir, Your excellent leading article on squirrels ("Reds versus greys", September 9) deserves stronger support than that of your correspondent Mr Alan Morris (letter, September 15). Writing from Sussex, he cannot have seen many red squirrels.

Here in Northumberland, almost the last refuge of the red squirrel in England, we still have a very high population of reds. Despite our numbers and an abundance of forestry the Northumberland Wildlife Trust knows of no example of damage to trees by them.

The only real threat to the red is the grey, advancing north through Durham and Cumbria and south from the Borders at about six miles a year. Once the grey arrives, the red inevitably disappears. We are waging a campaign to stem this alien tide and have aroused considerable public support.

Government promises of financial help for threatened native species by the last Secretary of State for the Environment and a willingness to listen to the need for new legislation to permit the selective and humane use of poison in the north of England and Scotland will be as valuable to our cause as was your timely leader.

Yours,

RIDLEY (Patron,  
Northumberland Wildlife Trust),  
House of Lords,  
September 15.

Business letters, page 23

Letters to the editor that are intended for publication should carry a day-time telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### Issues of judgment and ethics raised by Mellor case

From the Master of St Catharine's College, Cambridge

Sir, In his comments on the Mellor affair Simon Jenkins asks (article, September 26), in relation to political "freebies", whether the invoice of every ministerial holiday (and every civil service one) is now to be scrutinised for years past. The answer, surely, is that they ought to be.

For two years the incompetence and dogmatism of this government have imposed the most horrendous suffering on the British people. The hundreds of thousands who have lost jobs and businesses and homes, who have been reduced to penury and insecurity, so that they cannot afford to live decent lives, let alone holiday for four weeks in Marbella, are entitled to ask that those who have thrust them into distress should live lives of some sobriety, and not revel in luxury and waste — at no matter whose expense.

In an earlier letter (July 24) I suggested that any escape from the government's economic misjudgments and doctrinaire policies would necessitate ministers acting honourably to help their country. I was wrong. They have changed course without honour.

They may now wish to hang on to their jobs at no matter what cost to their dignity and reputation, or to Britain's international standing. But they could at least be seen to comport themselves with some material restraint.

Yours faithfully,  
BARRY SUPPLE,  
The Master's Lodge,  
St Catharine's College,  
Cambridge,  
September 26.

From Mr John Mendes

Sir, Now that the unfortunate Mr Mellor has fallen on his sword is it not time that we buried once and for all the quaint notion that a public man's private life is no concern of the public? Senior politicians have the power to make radical changes to the way of life of millions of their fellow citizens. Is it really so much to ask that in return we,

the people, should know a little more about the life-styles of our political masters than they care to reveal in their smug election literature with the photographs of the ever-smiling wife and obligatory 2.8 children?

There is a price to pay for success in almost every field of human endeavour and the price for the ambitious, high-profile politician is that he must sacrifice much personal privacy. If he cannot make this sacrifice, and blames all his misfortunes on the small-format newspapers, he should seriously consider Harry Truman's advice about the kitchen.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN MENDES,  
1 Lower Street, Cavendish, Suffolk,  
September 24.

From Miss Jane Killick

Sir, The Bishop of Peterborough's article (September 25) praising the courage of David Mellor must be welcomed by many. If other leading churchmen had expressed such views over the last few months, perhaps we would not have lost a "Secretary of state committed to and with a deep understanding of the arts" (letter, same day).

Yours faithfully,  
JANE KILICK,  
32 Bridge Street,  
Haddfield, Ipswich, Suffolk,  
September 25.

From Mr Alan Ducker

Sir, The Bishop of Peterborough says that "... the only question which should have been asked about Mr Mellor is the one about his abilities and effectiveness as a minister and member of cabinet".

I beg to differ. Mr Mellor was sent to Parliament in a position of trust. He has been shown as untrustworthy, not least to his family. That's why he had to go.

Yours faithfully,  
A. B. DUCKER,  
3 Allenby, Lansdown Road,  
Bath, Avon.

### Coming to the defence of scientific research councils

From Ms Joanna M. Tudor

Sir, Dr K. A. McLaughlin, FRSE, refers to a lack of democracy in the research councils (letter, September 17). The scenario he describes is certainly not true for the way grants committees operate within the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC).

Between four and ten referees are approached for each application, depending on the size of the grant requested. Applicants are invited to nominate two of these.

The remaining referees are identified by committee secretaries, who are scientifically qualified in the subject areas of their committees and who use an extensive database as well as advice from all the members of their committees.

Selection of chairmen and committee membership within the NERC is not entrusted to research council officers and committee chairmen. Nominations emerge as a result of a long and well established consultative process and appointments are made by council.

Dr McLaughlin also suggests that eminent scientists who spend a lot of time overseas are unable to serve on

committees. Most of our UK committee members are working scientists who enjoy international respect and travel abroad frequently. Grants meetings occasionally have to be missed, but in these cases written comments are normally provided.

It is also our policy to include overseas representatives on grants committees to ensure that applications are judged from an international perspective.

Yours sincerely,

JOANNA TUDOR  
(Committee Secretary,  
Higher Education Affairs),  
Natural Environment  
Research Council,  
Polaris House,  
North Star Avenue,  
Swindon, Wiltshire,  
September 23.

From Professor A. R. Fersht, FRSE

Sir, It is neither fair nor productive to make a blanket condemnation of the research councils. The Medical Research Council, for example, is a model institution. The boards, which are responsible for the review of

From Mr William L. M. Conner

Sir, The Bishop of Peterborough writes of "the doubtful moral attitude of a country without religion" and of the "fit of public morality" that brought down Mr Mellor.

When a bishop uses such terms in a matter of this kind, what hope is there for the survival of either Christian or family values in our nation?

Yours faithfully,  
WILLIAM CONNER,  
60 Elm Park Road,  
Chelsea, SW3,  
September 26.

From the Headmaster of the Purcell School

Sir, I was at the Yehudi Menuhin School last weekend when Mr David Mellor addressed those of us attending the biennial specialist music seminar. I am sure that many of my colleagues will share my frustration and dismay that as able a man has been forced to resign as a result of being pilloried by some of the tabloid press.

I was impressed by Mr Mellor's knowledge of the musical world, his quick perception of the key issues and his determination to champion the cause of the arts in this country. His departure is a serious blow.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN BAIN  
(Headmaster,  
The Purcell School,  
Oakhurst, Mount Park Road,  
Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex,  
September 25.

From Mr David Matthews

Sir, By comparing his departure to Captain Oates's sacrifice (report, September 26) is Mr Mellor predicting the same fate for the government as befell Captain Scott's expedition?

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID MATTHEWS,  
88 Avondale Road,  
South Croydon,  
Surrey,  
September 28.

grants, consist quite simply of the best scientists available, who appear to be chosen on grounds of quality rather than geopolitics.

The administrators are knowledgeable, enthusiastic PhDs. Those who deal with the management of grants are generally younger ones who have only recently left research and are well aware of the needs of scientists.

I have had just a passing acquaintance with the Agriculture and Food Research Council. Its director is still one of the most productive and outstanding active scientists in the country and its scientific board appears to be well chosen.

Those organisations are relatively small. It was most fortunate that recent proposals to merge the research councils fell through. A monolithic single research council could well have the deficiencies noted by Dr McLaughlin.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN FERSHT,  
Cambridge University  
Chemical Laboratory,  
Lensfield Road,  
Cambridge,  
September 17.

### Boarding schools

From Mr James Waghorn

Sir, "Constant pleading to be allowed to board" is not, in itself, a justification for sending a young child to boarding school (Clare Hampson's letter, September 25). Moreover, children should be able "to be with their own family" within the context of their own family and home community without resorting to an artificial society for so much of their childhood.

Yours faithfully,  
JAMES WAGHORN,  
Southwark, Cargreen,  
Salisbury, Wiltshire,  
September 26.

From Miss Isabel Mant

Sir, I read Bronie Flecker's defence of boarding schools with interest (letter, September 25). I imagine that she knows as little about my state comprehensive and sixth-form college education as I do about hers at Marlborough.

The point is that her "wealth of opportunities", as described, sound exactly like mine. What this has to do with boarding is not clear to me.

Yours faithfully,  
ISABEL MANT (student),  
Vardean Sixth-form College,  
Surrenden Road,  
Brighton, East Sussex.

From Mr Christopher Boulter

Sir, Mr E. G. F. Johnson writes (September 25) of the nomenclature of siblings in prep school, i.e., maximus, major, minor and minimus. I had always thought major, minor, tertius, quartus, quintus, sextus et al was the norm.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER BOULTER,  
Magistrates' Clerk's Office,  
Law Courts, County Civic Centre,  
Mold, Chwyd,  
September 28.

together under this heading.

MCCs are supposedly being retained to ensure that courts do not come under executive domination. Yet some are now training magistrates into an awareness of the effect on these budgets of their courtroom decisions. Others are basing the frequency of magistrates' sittings upon whether or not they claim expenses.

According to a consultation document issued by the Lord Chancellor's Department, the committees are soon to be policed by an inspectorate which, to quote Whitehall, "will not be at arm's length from the Department". It will also have the power to impose conditions which could lead to the removal by the Lord Chancellor of both MCCs and justices' clerks.

The independence of our magistrates' courts, which deal with 95 per cent of all criminal cases, may thus be at serious risk.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN DAVIS,  
54 Woodlands Road,  
Bookham, Surrey.

many years later. They should also remember that, at one time, the bribing of judges became a scandal. Part of the cure was to pay a salary, which removed temptation.

Some are known to have declined judicial appointment because they were unwilling to accept the financial penalty involved. The planned changes to judicial pensions to which Lord Ackner refers will make matters worse. If the trend is not stopped and reversed this country will get a second-rate judiciary, made up of those who were not good enough to succeed at the Bar. What will the position be in ten or 20 years' time? It is unthinkable that a judge should accept a bribe. Could it never happen again?

Yours faithfully,  
S. GRATWICK,  
11 South Square, Gray's Inn, WCI.

### Court independence

From Mr J. A. Davis

Sir, As the former justices' clerk of a magistrates' court shown to be one of the four most cost-effective in outer London, I am seriously concerned that the criteria which govern the budgets of magistrates' courts committees (MCCs) may have an adverse effect upon judicial independence.

These budgets are based 60 per cent on caseload (over which committees have no control), 25 per cent on effectiveness in fine enforcement, 10 per cent on control of delay (both the latter can be affected by decisions in the courtroom) and 5 per cent on quality of service.

Assessment of them depends on a set of Whitehall-compiled management statistics which are remarkably deficient in quality control or clear sense of purpose — for example, in the measurement of "quality of service". No attempt is made to identify the "customer" and defendants and witnesses are indiscriminately lumped

### Judges' pensions

From Mr Stephen Gratwick, QC

Sir, Lord Ackner's letter (September 25) should serve as a red light to those who propose to implement the Judicial Pensions and Retirement Bill, whose provisions he describes as a reduction in salary for judges and "parsimonious". I know of no walk of life in which the ultimate promotion is accompanied by severe financial penalty. The cabinet minister is paid more than the backbencher, yet the judge is far worse off after his appointment than he was at the Bar, and incomparably worse off than his coequals in industry or the professions.

Those who govern should never forget that there is an inertia in the affairs of mankind: the change made today may not show its full effect until







OBITUARIES

SIR FRANCIS WATSON

Sir Francis Watson, KCVO, FBA, FSA, director of the Wallace Collection from 1963 until his retirement in 1974, died in Wiltshire on September 27 aged 85. He was born in Worcester on August 24, 1907.

FOR many years the name of Francis Watson was synonymous with that of the Wallace Collection. By far the greater part of his working life was spent in the service of the collection left to the nation by Lady Wallace on her death in 1897. Watson joined the staff in his early thirties as an assistant keeper under Sir James Mann and succeeded to the directorship on the latter's death in 1962. The next year he followed Mann in another crucial appointment, that of Surveyor of the Queen's Works of Art.

It was in the ten years after the war, part of which Watson had spent on secondment to the Admiralty, that he built up his great reputation as a leading authority on the arts of France and Italy in the eighteenth century, with particular reference to the applied arts of the period. This culminated in the publication in 1956 of the *Catalogue of Furniture in the Wallace Collection*, which broke new ground in the field of serious catalogues of objects other than painting and sculpture. It achieved international acclaim and was followed by several works in the same vein. Among the most important was Watson's *The Wrightsmans Collection*, published between 1966 and 1970, a scholarly and meticulous account of the collection, starting with furniture, of Mr and Mrs Charles B. Wrightsmans, which he helped to form.

But Francis Watson was far from being merely a furniture expert. He was equally knowledgeable about painting. In 1949 he published a useful book on the paintings of

Canaletto, which went into a second edition in 1954. He also wrote shorter books on Giambattista Tiepolo and Fragonard.

His upbringing was solidly middle-class. His father was a headmaster and Francis Watson was educated at Shrewsbury and St John's College, Cambridge. He had the misfortune to graduate in 1929 when congenial work was even harder to find for a 22 year old than it is now. He struggled for some time in London on very little money. But he spoke well, was good at socialising and wrote fluently. He had always set his heart on career in the fine arts and eventually got a foot in the door at the Courtauld, where he became the first registrar in 1934, staying there until 1938.

The two great formative influences in Watson's scholarly life were his close friendships with John D. K. Lloyd and with Charles F. Bell, formerly Keeper of Fine Art at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. To both men he owed in large measure the mental discipline and inspiration leading him to display in his own chosen fields of study. He became a fluent writer and in addition to his books was a regular contributor to *The Times Literary Supplement*. Anonymity in some areas suited him and he wrote a number of obituaries for this page; if he did not feel capable of the assignment himself then he was usually ready with the right name.

Watson's growing expertise on the eighteenth century in particular made him an indispensable source of advice on the whole of this period of art history. Because of it he was eventually appointed Surveyor of the Queen's Works of Art, in succession to Sir James Mann. With his polished manner and easy sociability he was able to move with poise in royal circles. But he was always ready to give recommendations to more modest collectors and several friends benefited from his words on whether



to buy and whether to sell, especially the latter. Francis Watson was appointed MVO in 1959, CVO in 1965, and finally created KCVO in 1973.

He was the first chairman of the Furniture History Society which he was instrumental in forming, and of the Walpole Society from 1970, as well as a trustee of the Whitechapel Art Gallery from 1949-74. He was an active fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and in 1969 was elected a fellow of The British Academy. He was also Slade Professor of Fine Art at Oxford, 1969-70, and

Wrightsmans Professor, New York University, 1970-71, having received the Cold Medal of that institution in 1966.

After his retirement from the Wallace Collection he held a number of academic appointments in the United States, principally the Kress Professorship at the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC, 1975-76. There was also the private sector: the work done for the Wrightsmans gained him some renown and other collectors were anxious to retain his services.

The Watson personality was both attractive and engaging. At the head of his qualities was a great and ever youthful enthusiasm for becoming involved in art historical activities of every kind. His participation brooked no opposition and his ideas were sometimes put through by rather unconventional methods. He had the collector's boyish delight in getting something for nothing, or for next to nothing, both for himself and for those who employed him. This trait, possibly a reflection of those hard early years, remained with him throughout his life and career. While at the Wallace he took a quiet delight in showing selected friends a small cache of exotic china.

From his earliest days he was a polished speaker. He could hold the attention of a specialist audience for an hour while discussing a single snuff-box. His lecture, "The Chocul Box", was good enough to be published by the OUP. But his command of anecdote was also in demand by his family. When there were anniversaries or weddings to be celebrated then Francis was always earmarked for the major speech. He was a cook of skill and discernment and an attractive letter writer, able to ring the changes on half-a-dozen subjects in one or two sheets.

His wife Mary died in 1969. Thereafter he derived much happiness from his adopted Chinese son.

APPRECIATIONS

Sir Robert Micklethwait

YOUR obituary of Sir Robert Micklethwait (September 16) referred to many aspects of his distinguished career. May I add a brief word on three of them?

First, he was an exceptional advocate. The words "brilliant" or "outstanding" would not reflect his style. He was more of a Scarlet than a Brougham. But, by his meticulous preparation of his cases, his power of rational persuasion and his courtesy to his opponent and the court he was the embodiment of excellence.

Second, his rapport with the young. He was immensely kind and helpful to generations of youthful beginners on the Oxford circuit. To be his pupil was to become his friend, and to be welcomed by the family who meant so much to him.

Third, although many of his professional colleagues hoped that he might be appointed to the High Court Bench, there must be countless administrators, practitioners and claimants who knew how fortunate it was that a man with his great intelligence, imagination and compassion was available to take on the task of Chief National Insurance Commissioner. It is difficult to think of anyone who is so warmly remembered by all who knew him.

Christopher Oddie

I SHOULD like, if I may, to add a short supplement to your admirable obituary of Robin Micklethwait.

As a friend and neighbour



of many years' standing, I had ample opportunity of appreciating and admiring his great personal qualities. His brothers achieved eminence in other fields but it fell to him, as your obituary explained, to follow in his father's footsteps and achieve great distinction as a lawyer.

He certainly looked the part; and at first meeting there was some risk of his giving an impression of austerity. But it soon became clear that any such impression concealed a sense of fun, a fondness for gentle teasing and an ability to talk to others at their own level which made him such a respected and popular member of the local community.

There are those who have every reason to be grateful to him for the help he gave when they were first starting in his profession. He bore, with almost self-deprecatory humour, and certainly with an enviable tolerance, the failing sight and other physical problems with which he had to cope in these latter years.

Lord Allen of Abbeydale

Adel Rootstein

FURTHER to your excellent obituary (September 22) may I recount the following happening — to endorse the extreme generosity of Adel?

For the Christmas of 1969, as a monk at Buckfast Abbey, I had the desire to build a "life-size" crib. Having known Adel for several years, I contacted her (with the then Abbot's permission) and enquired if I could loan or hire six figures from her workshop. She was so intrigued by this request she agreed at once. But with one stipulation... there would be no charge — and figures would be sent to the Abbey forthwith — which indeed they were (from London) and on arrival causing some concern from other monks viewing so many naked arms, legs, bodies etc.

Colin Humphreys

COLIN Humphreys (obituary, September 21) was an elegant and witty draughtsman. Once on those happy, far-off days when the Air Ministry still existed he ad-



assembled (Sandy Shaw was the Blessed Virgin and Patrick Lichfield St Joseph). Thanks to Adel's great kindness it gave much delight to the crowds of visitors to the Abbey.

William Pools

dressed his staff in a memorandum which referred to "the seven separate sublines of a Chateau Lafite." I asked him what these were. I said I could distinguish three or possibly four, but not seven. He said: "I made it up. It sounds good."

Sir Ronald Melville

EDWARD WARBURG

Edward Mortimer Morris Warburg, American philanthropist and benefactor of the arts, died of heart failure in Norwalk, Connecticut, on September 21 aged 84. He was born in White Plains, New York, on June 5, 1908.

NO ONE in his right mind, Edward Warburg once said, would have got involved with American ballet in the early 1930s. The art form was an unknown quantity in the United States at that time, and he himself admitted that music was quite foreign to him. But Warburg, who was already challenging contemporary tastes with exhibitions of modern painting and sculpture, was undeterred. Together with Lincoln Kirstein, a former classmate at Harvard, he founded the American Ballet in 1933. The successful company, led by George Balanchine, was the precursor of the New York City Ballet.

The youngest of five children in a well-to-do New York banking family, Warburg grew up in an atmosphere of wealth and a tradition of philanthropy. While an undergraduate at Harvard he helped form the Harvard Soci-

ety of Contemporary Art, holding exhibitions in rented rooms of work by such artists as Edward Hopper and Georgia O'Keeffe. By 1932 he had become a founder of New York's Museum of Modern Art, serving on its board of trustees until 1953, and organising the museum's film library.

With time out for service in the second world war, during which he served in the US Army and took part in the invasion of Normandy, Warburg was active in philanthropic and relief organisations from 1939 onwards. He received decorations from the Belgian and Italian governments for his work with displaced persons after the war, was national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal from 1950 to 1955, and a member of the New York State Board of Regents from 1958 to 1975.

During the pre-war years he was an active art collector, acquiring works by Picasso, Matisse, Hopper, O'Keeffe, Lachaise, Klee, Miro, Brancusi and Calder. Many of these he later donated to the Museum of Modern Art and other museums.

He leaves a widow, son and daughter.

Cesar Manrique

CESAR Manrique, who devoted much of his life to trying

to protect his native island of Lanzarote from the ravages of mass tourism, has died aged 72. Among his successes was the banning of roadside advertising.

RALPH MANHEIM

Ralph Frederick Manheim, linguist and translator, died at his home in Cambridge on September 26 aged 85. He was born in New York City on April 4, 1907.

RALPH Manheim was so far ahead of other translators into the English language that he was in a class of his own. A modern foreign classic was always that much more certainly appraised if it had his imprimatur. Yet, because translation is so poorly paid, this translator of Brecht, Hans Arp, Hesse, Proust (some of the letters), Hitler (*Mein Kampf*, a job he found very distasteful, but did well: he managed to extract what meaning the scarcely literate author put into it), Dürckheim, Günter Grass, the Swiss jurist Bachofen, and dozens of others, did not achieve financial security until he received a grant from the MacArthur Foundation in Chicago — which gave him an annual \$1,000 for each year of his age, thereby increasing as he grew older.

It is impossible to point to his greatest triumph, but Grass's *Tin Drum* and some of the very difficult and colloquial novels of Louis-Ferdinand Céline must come very high on a long list. He translated not only from the French and German but also, on occasion, from the Polish, the Dutch and even the Serbo-Croat. Nor did financial security in old age prevent him from working: he had finished Grass's latest novel, *The Call of the Toad*, not long before his final illness.

Manheim had graduated from Harvard before he was 20, one of the very few to have done so. He had already travelled in Germany and knew its language intimately — and only a little later he came to know French. He was interested in translation wholly for its own sake, which is really what turned him into the most expert translator of all. But, while he translated passages from his favourite books for pleasure, he also needed to



make a living. He did some teaching, worked as a writer for New Deal projects and did technical translations.

After the war, much of which he spent in the army as a translator of German military documents, he could at last take to translating the kind of material in which he was interested — contemporary novels, art books and philosophy. He translated many key works by the philosopher Karl Jaspers, and even struggled with the opaque *Introduction to Metaphysics* of the ex-Nazi Martin Heidegger, long ago dubbed by more orthodox philosophers as a "purveyor of literal nonsense". He did some run-of-the-mill work for money, such as a novel by Erich Maria Remarque, but kept to the best as

much as he could. After *The Tin Drum* (1962), and an American PEN award, his own name became more famous and he could command higher, although still seldom adequate, fees. He was now working from Paris, where he remained until 1985.

The essence of Manheim's genius as a translator, which sometimes — as in certain of Céline's slang diatribe — seemed little short of miraculous, lay in his combination of extreme fidelity to the text with a suitable style. Céline does not, in Manheim's hands, sound like an Englishman, as he had been made to do in some earlier translations, but like the Frenchman he was, yet speaking the right sort of English, and without any awkwardness whatever.

Manheim had had much practice of course; but he continued to master the special problems set by each individual writer whose work he translated. He managed to make Hitler sound like Hitler (when in 1943 it was important to try to understand him) and Heidegger sound, as he was, shifty. Yet he could overcome his reservations about Céline's anti-Semitism, and to reveal his intense artistry in a way that no other translator had ever been able to do. He was also very successful in his collaboration with John Willet, the Brecht critic and translator, in translations of some of the more difficult plays.

One of Manheim's greatest pleasures (and rewards) in his final years at Cambridge was to be approached, as he so often was, by professors as well as students who were grateful to him for providing them with such inimitably authoritative versions of European classics.

Manheim was married four times. His fourth wife and fellow American, Julia, who devotedly nursed him throughout his last illness, survives him. His place can hardly be filled.

Astronomy

The sky at night in October

By MICHAEL J. HENDRIE, ASTRONOMY CORRESPONDENT

MERCURY is a -0.3 magnitude evening star throughout the month but will be difficult to see as it remains low in the south-west after sunset, setting no more than an hour after the Sun. Greatest eastern elongation (24 deg) is on the 31st. The two-day old crescent Moon will be just above Mercury on the evening of the 27th.

Venus is also an evening star but much brighter than Mercury at -3.9 magnitude. By the end of October, Venus will set in darkness and should be easily visible low in the south-west at dusk. The crescent Moon will be above Venus on the 28th, with the bright star Antares below the planet and Mercury lower still and to the north. Venus will move quickly away from the horizon during November to become a brilliant evening object over Christmas and setting as late as 20h by the new year.

Mars has brightened to -0.2 mag by the end of the month as it moves towards opposition on the 7th January 1993. The red planet is just coming over the north-eastern horizon by 21h in late October, in the constellation Gemini and not

far from the bright stars Castor and Pollux. The waning gibbous Moon will be nearby on the 18th.

Jupiter is a morning star in the constellation Virgo and -1.7 magnitude. In twilight early in the month, it rises by 03h 30m and in a dark sky late in the month. The Moon will be to the south on the 23rd/24th.

Saturn is low in the south-west by 23h late in October, in the constellation of Capricornus. The 0.4 mag planet is stationary on the 16th, after which its motion against the stars will be direct or towards the east. The Moon will be nearby on the 5th/6th.

Uranus is in Sagittarius setting by 20h 30m on the 31st. Neptune is close to Uranus and sets about the same time. The Moon is near the two planets on the 3rd/4th and again on the 30th/31st.

The Moon: first quarter, 3d 14h; full Moon, 11d 18h; last quarter, 19d 04h; new Moon, 25d 21h.

This October's full Moon will be the Hunter's Moon, the full Moon following the Harvest Moon (that nearest the date of the autumn equinox). Sunset on the 1st is at 17h 40m and on the 31st at 16h

35m while sunrise is at 06h 00m and 06h 50m on the same dates.

Astronomical Twilight ends at 19h 30m and 18h 30m early and late in the month and begins again at 04h 05m and 05h 00m.

Algol, the eclipsing binary star in Perseus, fades from its usual brightness of 2.1 to 3.4 magnitude every 69 hours, taking about five hours to fade and another five hours to recover normal brightness. It can be seen when faint this October about the following times: 6d 04h, 9d 00h, 11d 21h, 29d 02h and 31d 23h.

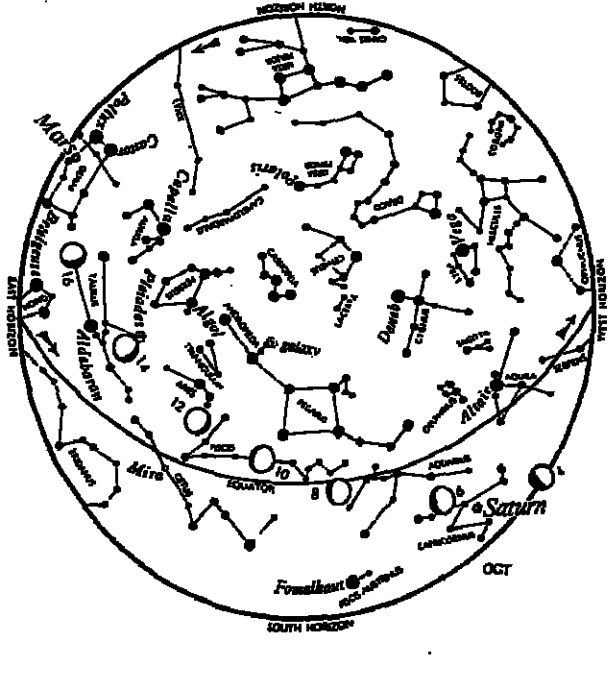
On the October chart the Milky Way lies from south-west, through the zenith to north-east. It passes through the constellations Aquila (the eagle), Sagitta (the arrow), Cygnus (the swan), Lacerta (the lizard), Cepheus (Cepheus), Cassiopeia (Cassiopeia), Perseus (Perseus), Auriga (the charioteer) and Gemini (the twins). To the south lies the constellation Pegasus (Pegasus, the flying horse), the principal feature being the easily identified Great Square of Pegasus.

The two right-hand stars of the Square of Pegasus provide a convenient guide to the 1.2 magnitude star Fomalhaut in the constellation Piscis Austr-

inus (the southern fish). This star lies in a part of the sky devoid of other bright stars and is easily identified in the autumn evenings. It reaches a maximum altitude above the horizon of only 9 degrees as seen from the latitude of London and appears even lower in the sky the farther north you go.

Attached to Pegasus is Andromeda. The top-left star of the Great Square is actually the brightest star in the constellation of Andromeda and not in Pegasus. Away to the north-east is marked a galaxy. This is M31, the great galaxy of Andromeda. Situated at a distance of over 2 million light years, it is the most distant object readily visible to the naked eye. On a dark, moonless night it appears as an ellipse of light, two or three times the size of the full Moon. How much can be seen depends on the clarity and darkness of the sky and the observer's eyesight.

Faint, extended objects like galaxies and nebulae require a dark, transparent sky but also the observer should be shielded from any direct lights, even quite distant ones, and take time to adapt to the darkness. This "dark adaption" takes 20 to 30 minutes.



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23.5 (11 pm) at the beginning, 22h (10 pm) in the middle, and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time.

At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east.

The diagram is drawn for the autumnal equinox at Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.



## Smith is given a dream start

Continued from page 1  
Smith's support for Maastricht and the European exchange-rate mechanism.

Tony Benn, who retained his executive place, led the demands for "the biggest constitutional change this century" to be put to the country in a referendum. But delegates heeded the warning of Gerald Kaufman, former shadow foreign secretary, that Maastricht was the government's problem and the conference should not make it Labour's.

Today, in his first speech to the conference as leader, Mr Smith will launch a blistering attack on "an inactive government led by an inactive prime minister". He will accuse John Major of doing nothing about unemployment and economic recovery and of wasting Britain's presidency of the European Community.

The defeat of Mr Skinner, the MP for Bolsover, who had spent 14 years on the executive, was the biggest surprise in yesterday's changeover. A defiant Mr Skinner declared that he would continue to be the voice of the left in Parliament. "No-one has died," he said.

Mr Gould's vote was halved, leaving him without a power base from which to launch his effort to change the Labour stance on Europe. The votes were cast before the internal party dispute over Europe, and Mr Gould suggested last night that his defeat might have been a reaction to the leadership contest in which he challenged Mr Smith. "I think the constituencies were influenced, perhaps irrationally, by the fact that I had fought a losing campaign in the leadership contest and that they wanted to support the new leadership and not the losing candidate," he said.

Mr Kinnock was delighted by the vote. He said: "It is a very strong national executive with the authority that comes from one member, one vote. It is up to date and forward looking."

Mr Brown was elected in third place at the first attempt. A trouble-free day for Mr Smith was rounded off with the news that Hilary Armstrong, his parliamentary private secretary, had also been elected in the NEC women's section.

Smith victory, page 10  
Diary, page 14



Colleagues' grief: staff of Pakistan International Airlines at Kathmandu airport weeping after hearing the news of the Airbus crash

## Descent into Kathmandu fills pilots with fear

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE approach to Kathmandu airport, the scene of two air crashes within three months, has become one of the most feared of all flown by international airline pilots.

They begin the descent into the airport — itself built 4,313ft above sea level — at sixteen miles to the south and a height of 11,500ft. At ten miles out the mountains rise steeply to more than 7,000ft, which they should cross at a height of 9,500ft before dropping to 6,800ft at six miles and 5,200ft at four miles. If the runway cannot be seen clearly at two miles from touchdown, pilots are told that they should go around again.

The Pakistan Airlines Airbus 300, which crashed yesterday, appeared to have hit the mountainside at 7,500ft when it should have been at 9,000ft.

The airport has a VOR radio beacon, a distance measuring device showing how far from touchdown the aircraft is, and a locator to enable an instrument approach to 900ft. It is not, however, covered by radar, and pressure has been growing on the Nepalese authorities for some form of ground control to be introduced as soon as possible.

As the weather can often be bad, pilots now have to keep a careful check on instruments to ensure that they are properly lined up with the runway.

Accident investigators will be anxious to establish what setting the pilot had put into his altimeter to indicate that the runway was well above sea level. If the setting was incorrect before take-off, the aircraft would have been too low without the pilot realising it and he would have flown towards the ground in cloud, unaware that he was near to crashing until a sudden voice ground proximity warning sounded.

The Airbus A300 is one of the most popular, and until now, safest of aircraft flying. It was the first in the family of Airbus jets to be conceived and so far a total of 248 have been delivered worldwide. Unlike its successor the short range A320, the A300 is not "fly-by-wire" and it has a conventional central control column.

A total of six A300s have been lost, including one belonging to IranAir shot down by the US Navy in the Gulf. None of the others that have crashed have involved loss of life, although the aircraft have been written off.

## Missionary family among 35 Britons killed in Airbus crash

Continued from page 1

worked on development projects, such as small scale hydro-power units.

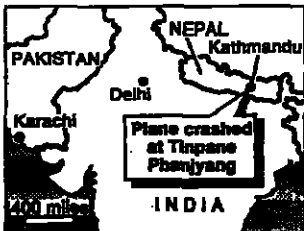
Irene Seward, headmistress of St Andrew's primary school in Stanstead Abbots, where the children went to school, said: "This is terrible, terrible news. They were a lovely family and the children were simply beautiful. Simeon was a real little tinker. Cheeky and lovable, always making people laugh. The girls were quiet, very self-assured and calm, and very popular."

"The parents couldn't do enough for people. They were regular visitors to the school and often helped other parents by delivering and collecting their children. They were such a caring family. I can't believe this has happened."

The Rev Barry Goodwin, vicar of St Andrew's in Stanstead Abbots, said: "When I heard the news I was looking out at my garden and I suddenly remembered the family playing football with us on the lawn. Andy helped us out with our Pathfinders group, which consisted of 11 to 14-year-olds. He was so good with the kids, so encouraging. He and Helen were real Christians."

David Harley, principal of the All Nations college, said: "This is terribly sad for all of us at the college. They were a loving, pleasant ordinary family. God taught us that we will live on, but that cannot take away the enormity of the human loss in such a tragedy."

Jenny Taylor, spokesman for the Intersect charity, said: "It is the most terribly sad



thing. Travel is always something that is dangerous for our workers, just getting on a bus in Nepal can be dangerous."

Melissa Colston, marketing manager, at Encounter Overseas, where two other crash victims worked, said: "Obviously everyone here is very upset at the news. Our two colleagues were flying out on business. It's very upsetting for all concerned. The pair left Heathrow on Sunday evening bound for Karachi where they picked up the connecting

flight to Kathmandu for the start of the tourist season.

The three Britons who were booked on the flight through Bridge the World were said to be a couple and one individual. Jerry Bridge, managing director, said the couple were thought to be on a "round-the-world dream ticket" while the third booking, a woman, was going on a trekking holiday.

Keith Beswick, managing director of Quest Worldwide Travel of Kingston, southwest London said they had booked six people on the flight, one couple and four travelling separately, from Berkshire, Birmingham, Wales and Middlesex. "They would have gone on trekking holidays independently. They all had return flights to come back in three to four to five weeks," Mr Beswick added. "The situation looks very bleak."

Most of the passengers were from Nepal returning, from jobs in the Middle East for the Hindu Dassein festival which began on Sunday.

The Foreign Office issued the following telephone numbers for people who may have had relatives on board the Airbus: Office hours: 071-270 4112. Other times: 071-839 1010.

## Political sketch

## Minus a seal, the circus carries on

Welcome, says my brochure, from Tower World, "to Blackpool's newest, most exciting day out". The Tower complex offers seven levels of excitement on seven floors. It costs just £5.95. Up the road, the Winter Gardens complex is offering a rival programme. It is free. It is called *The 91st Labour Party Conference*. Against a conference backdrop designed to recall an airport lounge in — Bahrain, perhaps, circa 1979 — a packed house thrills to spectacles as rare and strange as anything you can find in Blackpool.

At Tower World (level 2), "an all-time favourite, the Tower Circus" continues to delight the kids. Yesterday at the Winter Gardens the Comrades' Circus got off to a rocky start when Bryan, one of the performing seals, quit. He was fed up with trying to balance a particularly slippery blue ball decorated with 12 yellow stars on his nose. His exit has caused a certain amount of tut-tutting among the clowns, but a new seal will be found, and the show goes on.

It started yesterday morning with a rip-roaring speech from Labour's economic spokesman, Gordon Brown. I hardly heard a word of it. I was too absorbed by what he was doing with his tongue.

Have you watched him on TV? What do you think is happening inside his mouth? My own theory is that he is juggling two or three heavy ball-bearings on the end of his tongue. Where a Tory spokesman may speak with a plum in his mouth, it is fitting that Labour's main does it with ball-bearings.

"Why should millions of pounds..." (Brown is beginning to jerk his head to emphasise words in that turkey-like head-butting which Neil Kinnock made famous) "... go to a few of the world's richest men?" His style is sulkily angry, jowls aquiver, sub-Lawson style. You can hear the ball-bearings colliding. But then he stops, momentarily, for air.

Watch. He gulps, mouth as open as a fish. Tongue makes a sudden dart forward, curling down over bottom teeth and plumping the space between lower gum and lip. Is this man perhaps itching to stick his tongue out at you but

aborting the gesture? Is he repositioning the ball-bearings for another juggle? Taken as a conference speech on the economy, Mr Brown's performance yesterday is agreed to have been splendid. Taken as a championship display of oral juggling while making a major statement on economic policy, it was breathtaking.

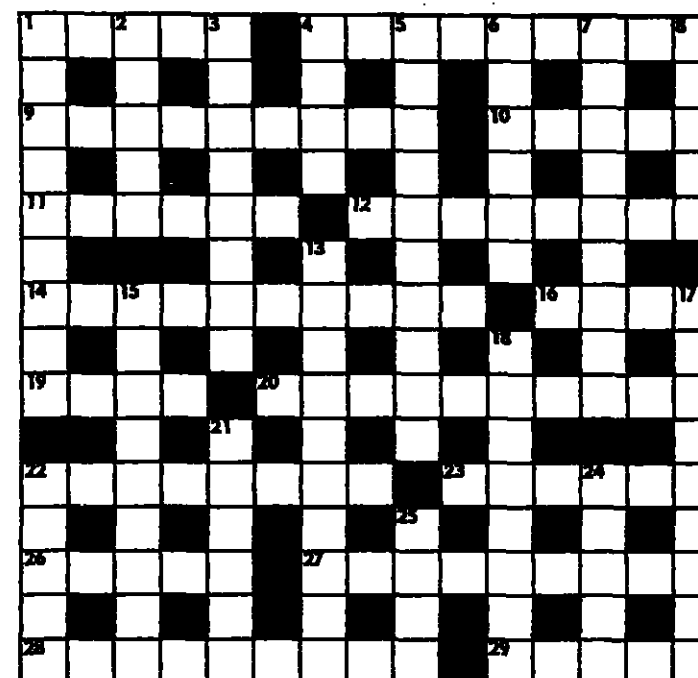
Sitting next to the gorgeously robed Margaret Beckett at the centre of the platform, John Smith watched Brown serenely. John and Margaret have the air of the bride's parents at a wedding party: they do not know everyone there, and some of the relations they do know they do not care for. But their demeanour is cordial, magnanimous. Unlike Neil Kinnock, whose mien at conference was that of a nervous best man, anxious to make sure everyone was happy, scowling when anything went wrong. John and Margaret do not give the impression of listening so much as presiding. Starting into the middle distance as speakers rant, they seldom indicate agreement or dissent. They are above such things.

Only very occasionally, such as when the applause for Gordon Brown went on rather too long, do Mr Smith's lips purse into a thin, tight line, as if there were spiders in his mouth. He claps with elbows akimbo, ramming his arms together to crush an imaginary insect between the palms, then pulling them apart. Bullworker style. As the applause for Mr Brown continued, Mr Smith's insect-crushing became grimmer, his smile more pursed. His spiders more troublesome.

But then, where parliament gives sketch writers a good view of the tops of heads, conferences give us the chance to study mouths. Take Bryan Gould's. For years it has been covered. A finger, a hand, both hands to the face have been habitual poses. Interviewed everywhere yesterday, free at last and breathing deep, Gould's whole demeanour changed. Clichés dropped away from his speech, his shoulders relaxed, and not once did he cover his mouth.

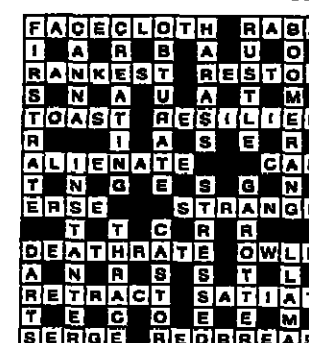
MATTHEW PARRIS

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,036



- ACROSS**
- Disagreement about pound coin (5).
  - Meat has tough fibre and tendon (5).
  - Tied labour force in Scotland go on the links (5,4).
  - Heater won't start? Well! (5).
  - Duplicate election (3,3).
  - Warning cries before shot in wooded country (5).
  - Winston Smith was watched by this earlier arrival (3,7).
  - Influential American lived quietly (4).
  - Not, we're told, the start of the branch line (4).
  - Jam at top of container (6-4).
  - Pit nearly dark? Nearly (8).
  - Hear bird give tongue (6).
  - Leather loses hardness in ether (5).
- DOWN**
- The marrow, perhaps, lives in the ground (9).
  - Every year the aristocracy hold a display (9).
  - Study about instant genius (5).
  - Fellow burglar, say — bird shot him (4,5).
  - A person I captured using force (5).
  - Go off slowly, beginning to hobble and fearing collapse (4,4).
  - Why fire is hard to swallow? (4).
  - Get mention for working late (10).
  - On the spike, journalist's last scoop (6).
  - Embarrassed, but I will take a joke (3,2,4).
  - In danger — mysteriously infected (5).
  - Game, say, may give offence (6,4).
  - Malign god made the town (9).
  - Old cave-dweller was a capital fellow out East (6,3).
  - Fairy stripped off and got cold (8).
  - Gold coin a girl found (6).
  - Cry of delight as wife put on ring (5).
  - ... his gift, initially, to some extent? (5).
  - Foreign secretary was gloomy (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,035



Concise crossword, page 11  
Life & Times section

## WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

**SLEAVE**  
a. The sleeve of a herald's tabard  
b. To speak scornfully  
c. A blast of silk

**SLUGHORN**  
a. The horn of a snail  
b. A trumpet  
c. Stag's first year antlers

**SORNER**  
a. A scornful look  
b. A noisy sleeper  
c. A sponge

**FORSWUNK**  
a. Exhausted with labour  
b. Porphyry  
c. Beaten in a swimming race

Answers on page 16

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-A1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Barnet	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M25	734
M-ways/roads M25-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

## TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
West Midlands	702
West of England	703
West of Scotland	704
West of Ireland	705
West of Africa	706
West of Asia	707
West of Europe	708
West of North America	709
West of South America	710
West of Australia	711
West of New Zealand	712
West of Antarctica	713
West of the Arctic	714
West of the Antarctic	715
West of the Pacific	716
West of the Atlantic	717
West of the Indian Ocean	718
West of the Southern Ocean	719
West of the Arctic Ocean	720
West of the Antarctic Ocean	721
West of the Pacific Ocean	722
West of the Atlantic Ocean	723
West of the Indian Ocean	724
West of the Southern Ocean	725
West of the Arctic Ocean	726
West of the Antarctic Ocean	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

## WEATHER

Patchy fog should clear by mid-morning, although some northern and southern coasts may stay dull and misty. Most places will be dry and quite warm for a time, with a little sunshine. Rain and freshening winds will spread from the west across Northern Ireland and much of western and southern Britain during the day. The south-west may clear up later. Outlook: rain in the north and the east will clear tomorrow morning; it will then be mostly dry, bright and cooler. Showers in the north.

## ABROAD

MIDDAY: 1 = thunder, 2 = drizzle, 3 = fog, 4 = sun, 5 = rain, 6 = snow, 7 = hail, 8 = cloud, 9 = rain, 10 = sun, 11 = snow, 12 = hail, 13 = rain, 14 = sun, 15 = snow, 16 = hail, 17 = rain, 18 = sun, 19 = snow, 20 = hail, 21 = rain, 22 = sun, 23 = snow, 24 = hail, 25 = rain, 26 = sun, 27 = snow, 28 = hail, 29 = rain, 30 = sun, 31 = snow, 32 = hail, 33 = rain, 34 = sun, 35 = snow, 36 = hail, 37 = rain, 38 = sun, 39 = snow, 40 = hail, 41 = rain, 42 = sun, 43 = snow, 44 = hail, 45 = rain, 46 = sun, 47 = snow, 48 = hail, 49 = rain, 50 = sun, 51 = snow, 52 = hail, 53 = rain, 54 = sun, 55 = snow, 56 = hail, 57 = rain, 58 = sun, 59 = snow, 60 = hail, 61 = rain, 62 = sun, 63 = snow, 64 = hail, 65 = rain, 66 = sun, 67 = snow, 68 = hail, 69 = rain, 70 = sun, 71 = snow, 72 = hail, 73 = rain, 74 = sun, 75 = snow, 76 = hail, 77 = rain, 78 = sun, 79 = snow, 80 = hail, 81 = rain, 82 = sun, 83 = snow, 84 = hail, 85 = rain, 86 = sun, 87 = snow, 88 = hail, 89 = rain, 90 = sun, 91 = snow, 92 = hail, 93 = 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## EC ministers oppose two-speed Europe

# Dublin raises interest rates to defend punt

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

IRELAND, determined to stay in the front rank of monetary integration in Europe, was yesterday forced to raise its key lending rates by 3 points to defend the punt. Last week, Dublin introduced foreign exchange controls to counter market turbulence.

The latest move, which took the Irish central bank's short-term facility rate to 13.75 and the overnight deposit rate to 10.5 per cent, came as the conviction hardened in the financial markets that the past weeks of severe tension within the exchange-rate mechanism are rapidly leading to a two- or multi-tier monetary union, with Germany, France and the Benelux countries forming the "hard-core" first tier.

Meanwhile, Community finance ministers came out firmly against a two-speed Europe and reaffirmed their commitment to proceeding together within the European Monetary System.

A communiqué, issued at

the end of a day of discussions, welcomed the return of calm to the financial markets. It said: "Everyone present emphasised their opposition to the concept of a two-speed Europe and reiterated that the object of the Community was to proceed together."

The ministers said yesterday the key to stability in the Community was the strict application of "convergence" programmes to harmonise economic indicators.

Reflecting growing concern over being left out of the first tier, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, the Danish economics minister, said his government wanted to be part of the hard core. It was a Danish "no" in a referendum on the Maastricht treaty that initially prompted market unease about the party grid.

Sterling, which fell to DM2.5130 at the official 4pm London close, has contributed to the pressure on the punt. Currency dealers see the devaluation of sterling as a threat to

the Irish economy. Expectations of a further cut in base rates continued to undermine sentiment for the punt. It ended almost 2 pence lower than on Friday, but held above its trading low last week of DM2.5103. Against the dollar, sterling closed about 14 cents higher at \$1.7270. Its trade-weighted index dropped 0.3 to 82.6.

Renewed anxiety about the American economy, and speculation that US interest rates could be cut again if jobs figures on Friday are bad, pushed the dollar to a record low of 119 yen, the currency fast becoming a "safe haven". It eased to close in Europe at ¥119.75 and fell to DM1.4545.

A calmer mood marked the European markets following last week's successful defence of the franc by the German and French central banks. The franc stood at 3.3673 to the mark at the London close, up from 3.3820 on Friday. But some analysts fear that, having saved the franc, the Bundesbank council will this week be less likely to ease monetary policy.

The punt, still considered as a candidate for devaluation, experienced most pressure, but managed to stay more than half pence off its ERM floor in European trading hours. Later, it dropped below its lower permitted limit, fueling fears that interest rates may be raised again, a move likely to increase pressure on the punt. German overnight rates yesterday fell to their lowest level for five months in a technical adjustment related to intervention.

Albert Reynolds, the Irish prime minister, said a devaluation of the punt was not warranted. Speaking in Dublin, he said: "The benefits of a firm exchange rate that belongs to the core currencies of Europe, in terms of lower inflation, lower interest rates in the longer term and greater investment confidence, outweigh any short-term difficulties which will undoubtedly now face the Irish economy."

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Market report, page 22

Leading article, page 15  
Comment, page 23



Edging towards target: David James, chairman of Dan-Air, is close to obtaining finance to save UK's oldest airline

## Halifax and the Woolwich cut rates

By LINDSAY COOK  
MONEY EDITOR

TWO of the largest mortgage lenders, the Halifax and Woolwich building societies, cut their base mortgage rate to 9.99 per cent for new borrowers from yesterday and from November 1 for existing borrowers. They are also offering mortgages to first time buyers at well under 8 per cent.

The Woolwich is offering a mortgage rate of 7.5 per cent to first time borrowers borrowing £60,000 or more. The 2.49 per cent discount for one year is only available to those borrowing less than 90 per cent of the value of a property who take out an endowment policy. For loans above 90 per cent the discount is 1.39 per cent, giving a mortgage rate of 8.6 per cent.

The Halifax is offering a minimum rate of 7.6 per cent to first time buyers who borrow more than £100,000 and have saved 10 per cent of the house price. The first time buyer discounts run to January 31, 1994. The buyer must also take either the society's combined buildings and contents insurance or its mortgage protector policy to safeguard mortgage payments. Those borrowing £60,000 or more get a discount of 2.19 per cent and pay 7.8 per cent if they have saved 10 per cent. Below £60,000 the discount is 1.59 per cent up to 90 per cent of value and 1.29 per cent for those needing larger percentage loans.

From next Monday the 39th issue of National Savings certificates will be on sale offering a reduced 6.75 per cent tax-free over five years. The FIRST Option bond will pay 6.5 per cent after basic tax.

## Hopes rise for £30 million deal to keep Dan-Air flying

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

AS David James, the Dan-Air chairman, yesterday did the rounds of City financial institutions, hopes were rising that he might secure a £30 million deal to see Britain's oldest airline through the recession. Playing heavily on the good-will of the 40-year-old airline still enjoys in the travel trade and among business travellers, he was inching towards his target by late afternoon.

As Mr James spoke to banks and existing investors, Richard Branson, owner of Virgin Atlantic, was beginning the "due diligence" process and examining the books of Dan-Air's parent company, Davies & Newman. A decision is not expected for ten days but it was clear Mr Branson is becoming attracted to taking a stake in a reformed Dan-Air.

Despite Mr James' repeated protestations that the airline is under no immediate threat, the outcome of the proposed deal hangs increasingly on the success of both Mr James and Mr Branson in maintaining confidence in the

ability to keep Dan-Air flying. Without that confidence, tour operators will shy away from placing charter contracts and businessmen will avoid making scheduled bookings.

It is this uncertainty which caused the Civil Aviation Authority to show concern about Dan-Air last week. Although there was no immediate cause for alarm, rumours had begun circulating four months ago that Dan-Air could be in financial trouble.

As a result, many tour operators began to turn their backs on Dan-Air because of doubts that it would be around to fulfil next summer's contracts. The tour operators also pointed to the over-capacity of charter seats this summer which had led many to consolidate their bookings into the airlines they own. At the same time businessmen, who had discovered Dan-Air's high-quality Elite class service and sent short-term bookings soaring, began to move to rival airlines for future flights.

By last week the rumours had become so rife within the industry that the CAA had no option but to ask for clarification about Dan-Air's long-term future arguing that if there was any doubt it should not try to sell seats which may not be available.

Mr Branson is anxious to ensure the independent airline sector survives to provide some kind of competitive balance against the mega-carriers. If Dan-Air went under, he believes, Virgin itself could be caught in the turbulence. Virgin has a fast growing tour operation through Virgin Holidays and, Mr Branson believes, by linking Dan-Air directly with a tour operator one of the main causes of its problems with charter services could be overcome.

He also argued that Dan-Air's successful 50 per cent stake in Gatwick Handling could be used to provide a joint operation for both airlines, that reservations could be united to save costs and vital Gatwick slots could be traded between the two.

## ICI shares slide as analysts downgrade

By COLIN CAMPBELL

ICI shares yesterday fell 63p to £11.45 in heavy trading and £451.06 million was cleared off the group's market capitalisation, after analysts sharply reduced their 1992 and 1993 profit forecasts for the diversified chemicals and pharmaceuticals group.

The profit downgrading and the pound's latest decline against the mark depressed shares and succeeded in wiping out all of last week's gains. The FT-SE 100 index finished near its low for the day, 41.0 points down at 2,560.0. Turnover was subdued compared with recent levels as only 487 million shares changed hands. Bonds also recorded further losses at the longer end as hopes of another early cut in bank base rates appeared to be ruled out.

ICI said it did not comment on market developments after

Martin Evans, chemicals analyst at Hoare Govett, the broker, cut his 1992 pre-tax profit forecast from £780 million to £620 million. He also lowered his 1993 profit estimate from £1 billion pre-tax to £875 million, though he believes ICI will maintain this year's total dividend at 55p a share, and could possibly increase the dividend payment by 1p to 56p a share in 1993.

ICI, valued at £8.19 billion last night compared with £8.65 billion on Friday, said it happens that analysts change their forecasts from time to time. The group said results for the third quarter of 1992 are due on October 29. Analysts expect them to possibly show a profit setback to £100 million (£196 million).

## SFO confirms Bank enquiry

By JONATHAN PRYNN

THE Serious Fraud Office has confirmed it has teamed up with the City of London police to investigate allegations that two Bank of England officials accepted bribes from executives of the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI).

An accountant and former Pakistani military intelligence officer, identified as Mr X, has made a sworn statement to the inquiry into BCCI, headed by Lord Justice Bingham, claiming that he saw briefcases stuffed with \$100 bills passed

to the Bank officials at a BCCI party in 1990.

A spokeswoman for the Serious Fraud Office said: "We are looking into these claims in conjunction with the City of London police."

The Bank of England confirmed at the weekend that it carried out its own internal investigation into the claims earlier this year but found no evidence to support them.

The Bank said it had referred the enquiries to the criminal authorities so that they had all relevant information at their disposal rather than because of any suspicions that the claims might be true.

The allegations came to light on Saturday when Brian Sedgemore, the Labour MP for Hackney South and Shore-ditch, tabled an early-day motion detailing the evidence given by Mr X to the Bingham enquiry.

The Bingham report has been handed to the Treasury but details are not likely to become officially available until it can be read out in parliament next month.

## Nuclear urged to make way for coal

By PATRICIA TEHAN

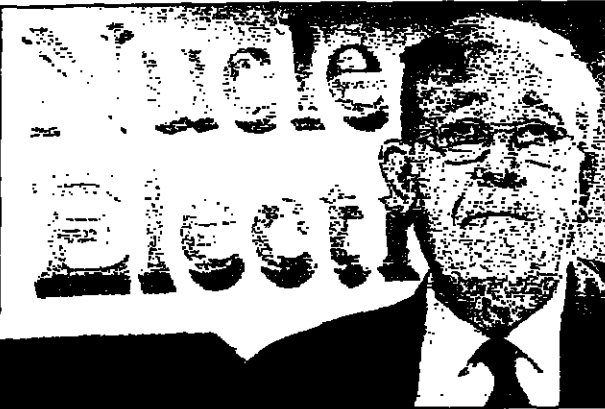
TIM Eggar, the energy minister, summoned the chairman and chief executive of Nuclear Electric, the state-owned generator, to talks yesterday in an effort to persuade them to hand over some of their business to a competitor.

He wants them to cancel contracts for power sales to regional electricity companies in order to create more room for coal-fired power.

Although no decision was taken, the two men, John Collier, chairman, and Robert Hawley, chief executive, are understood to have agreed to a compromise with Mr Eggar. Nuclear Electric will give up some of its contracts, but, as one source said, it "will not face the large-scale tinkering with its business that was originally envisaged".

Mr Eggar is in a difficult position, needing to get coal privatisation away while preserving value in Nuclear Electric with its 20 per cent share of the generating market.

The government's plans to



Compromise: John Collier, Nuclear Electric chairman

begin its privatisation of British Coal are being held up by a delay in the signing of new five-year coal contracts with National Power and PowerGen. The generators are unable to sign up until they have reached agreements to sell the coal-fired power to the regional electricity companies.

The regional electricity companies object to the amount of coal-fired power they would be expected to

take and to the price they would be expected to pay. One regional supply company head said: "The work to get the whole deal together is at least weeks away."

Michael Heseltine, trade secretary, hopes to make some announcement on the planned privatisation at the Conservative conference next week. The finger of blame for holding up the signing of the contracts has been pointed at

Norweb, Eastern and Manweb in particular. They are understood to be under pressure to dismantle their contracts with Nuclear Electric and to agree to take coal power instead.

Norweb would only confirm that negotiations are continuing with the main generators. Eastern refused to comment. A Manweb spokeswoman refused to comment or to confirm the company has been in talks with Nuclear Electric. She said: "We do not divulge to anybody whether we have contracts or who we have them with", though she said the only contracts under negotiation are for coal power from the generators.

Yesterday, Yorkshire Electricity was also being blamed for delaying the signing of the contracts, even though it has very little involvement with Nuclear Electric. One source close to the discussions said Yorkshire appeared to be the main stumbling block. Yorkshire refused to comment on the talks other than to say "discussions are continuing".

## DEVALUATION

### You could benefit from an offshore investment in Swiss Francs

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Mr/Ms/Miss  
Address

Postcode Telephone

B.I.A. Bond Investments AG, Switzerland

8 Baurstrasse, 6002 Zug, Switzerland

### THE POUND

US dollar  
1.7270 (+0.0170)  
German mark  
2.5136 (-0.0193)  
Exchange index  
82.6 (-0.3)  
Bank of England official close (4pm)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share  
1873.1 (-40.9)  
FT-SE 100  
2560.0 (-41.0)  
New York Dow Jones  
3255.45 (+5.13)  
Tokyo Nikkei Avg  
17972.61 (-422.15)

### INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 9%  
3-month interbank 9 1/8-9 1/4%  
3-month eligible bills 8 1/2-8 3/4%  
US: Prime Rate 6%  
Federal Funds 7 1/4%  
3-month Treasury Bills 2 7/8-2 7/16%  
30-year bonds 96 1/8-96 1/4%

### CURRENCIES

London: New York:  
£ \$1.7275  
C \$1.7295  
C DM1.4505  
S \$wF1.2710  
C FFfr 47.35  
S FFfr 48.25  
C Yen 208.83  
S Yen 219.50  
C Index 82.6  
S Index 80.8  
ECU 10.785751  
SDR 10.843875  
E ECU1.27667  
S SDR1.185000  
London Forex market close

### GOLD

London Fixing:  
AM \$349.00 PM \$348.00  
Close \$348.00-348.50  
C201 00-202 00  
New York:  
Comex \$ 347.65-348.15

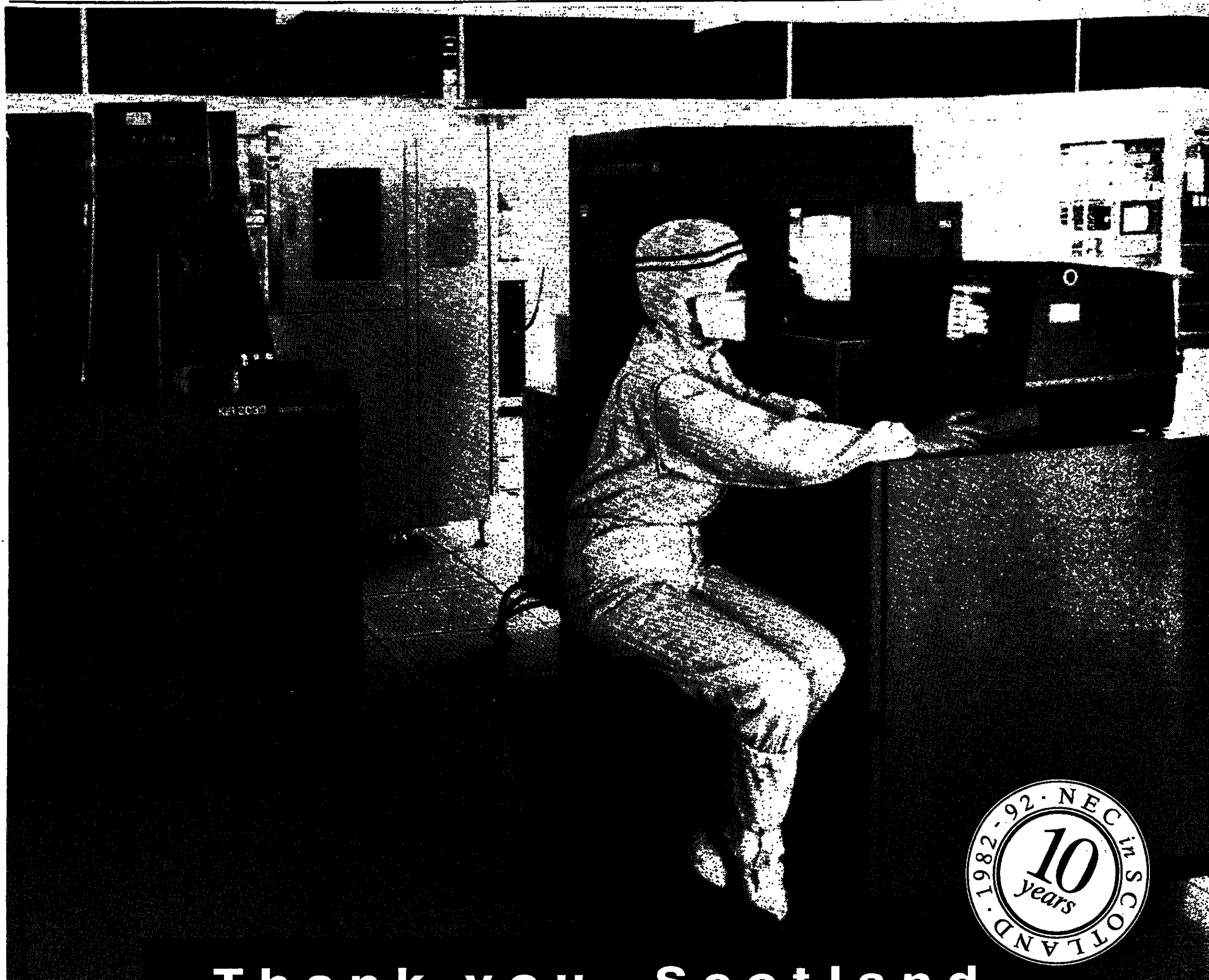
### NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Oct) \$20.35/bbl (\$20.20)

### RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 138.9 August (1987=100)  
\* Denotes midday trading price





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Today we employ 830 people, all trained by NEC, producing 3 million microchips a month for export throughout Europe. And we're growing from strength to strength.



NEC is the world's largest supplier of semiconductor devices. A position we've achieved by producing only products of the highest quality and reliability.

Which is why we invested £175m equipping NEC Livingston with the most advanced semiconductor technology in the world.

We are one of Europe's biggest wafer fabrication facilities, manufacturing a range of memory and microcomputer devices with special emphasis on the 4Mbit DRAM.

In 1991, we were awarded a National Training Award, a reflection of our commitment to training and teamwork.

Because it's teamwork that has brought us the success we enjoy today. Success with customers, suppliers and the local community of Livingston. Thank you. Here's to the next ten years.

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for Human Potential

**NEC**

For further information contact NEC Semiconductors (UK) Ltd, Carnegie Rd, Deans, Livingston, West Lothian, EH54 8QX, UK.

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# MMI claims rescue talks with French are still on

By JONATHAN PRYNN AND DOUGLAS BROOM

MUNICIPAL Mutual Insurance (MMI), the insurance company that provides cover for the vast majority of Britain's local authorities, has denied claims that rescue talks over the takeover of the group by French insurance companies have collapsed.

Some weekend reports suggested that La Garantie Mutuelle des Fonctionnaires, the French insurer heading the Eurosafe group, had decided to pull out of the negotiations. MMI, Britain's ninth largest insurer, has severe financial problems and takeover by the French is likely to be its only chance of survival.

In a statement issued yesterday, Brian Wright, MMI chief executive, confirmed that the talks were continuing. "The transfer of MMI's business is complex and we have to ensure that the transfer is effected in the best way to

protect the interests of policy holders. Given this complexity, it is not surprising that the process of structuring the transfer has been protracted. Our discussions with GMF are continuing. MMI continues to write new business and pay out claims in full, he added.

Mr Wright and other MMI directors will meet leaders from the associations of county, district and metropolitan councils at Church House, Westminster, today.

Local authorities have been advised that if MMI went into liquidation they would have grounds to sue the directors and liquidators to recover unpaid compensation.

A spokesman said: "We have been told that liquidation could take up to 20 years to complete if MMI goes down."

If the talks with the French do fail, the collapse of MMI or its withdrawal from public liability underwriting would be a major headache for the treasurers of Britain's local authorities. MMI has dominated the local authority public liability market for a decade by aggressively chasing business through quoting very low premium rates.

The composite insurers, most of which have underwritten little local authority business since the early 1980s, would be unlikely to return to a market of which they have so little recent experience without being compensated with very substantial increases in premium rates.

Lloyd's, with its greater flexibility and willingness to underwrite unusual risks, might be more prepared to take on the local authority accounts, but would also charge higher rates.

Clwyd County Council in north Wales yesterday issued a strong denial of newspaper reports that MMI had put pressure on it and neighbouring Gwynedd council to suppress a report on child abuse council homes in the two counties.



Shares in Merrydown Wine fell from 298p to 255p after the wine and cider maker warned investors that competition from cheaper brands had hit margins and squeezed available shelf space in stores. Market conditions were

"extremely difficult", said Richard Purdey, chairman (above), at the annual meeting in East Sussex. Despite a strong April-June quarter, the cider market was expected to show only slight growth over the year. Pub trade continues to be

tough. Merrydown hopes to announce a national distribution arrangement for its draught cider before Christmas. Merrydown also announced the acquisition of Sorelle, a sparkling herbal drink, from Premier Teas.

## Aberdeen Trust in funds deal

By JONATHAN PRYNN

ABERDEEN Trust, the fund management group, has given a warning that its operating profits for the financial year ending tomorrow will be below last year's level and has announced the acquisition of contracts to manage £430 million of funds.

Aberdeen Trust told its shareholders that its trading position has been "adversely affected by the uncertainty in the stock market arising from the continuing failure of the UK economy to emerge from recession, and by the weakness of the dollar, which is the valuation currency for a significant element of the funds under management."

The fund management contracts are being acquired from Century, a life assurance company, for £5.6 million and will generate a minimum annual fee income of £950,000.

## Interim suffers as How dips into red

By PHILIP PANGALOS

HOW Group has cut its interim dividend to 0.75p (1p) a share as exceptional redundancy and severance costs pushed the building and engineering services contractor into the red.

The company, which is based in West Bromwich, West Midlands, suffered a loss before tax of £96,000 in the six months to the end of June, against a profit of £507,000 last time, after an exceptional charge of £591,000.

Turnover slumped to £75.2 million, down from £123.1 million previously, in what the group described as the worst trading conditions since its origins in 1947. Order books are down by a third on the comparative period, but this was exacerbated by the group's decision not to chase business at reduced margins.

Peter How, chairman, blamed most of the fall in

turnover on the engineering services division, which has shed a further 20 per cent of its workforce during 1992 in the continued drive to reduce overheads.

The division is directly exposed to the construction industry and has had to shed about 250 jobs this year, leaving a workforce of 1,160 compared with staffing levels of about 2,300 in 1990.

How's businesses were also affected by the failure of Canary Wharf and Mountleigh, although its exposure is described as "modest", with a "worst case scenario" for bad debts already provided at £500,000.

There is a 0.35p loss per share, against earnings of 0.31p a share last time. The group's cash reserves stood at about £7 million at the half year stage. The shares eased 2p to 24p.

## New tenant found for Alban Gate

By MATTHEW BOND

MEPC, the property group, has secured another tenant for Alban Gate, the huge office block built over London Wall in the City of London.

GT Management, the investment manager, is to take 24,000 sq ft on the 14th floor. The letting comes a week after Chemical Bank said it would take 164,000 sq ft in preference to an earlier decision to move to Canary Wharf.

Like the Chemical letting, GT has secured break clauses in its lease, further evidence that the structure of the standard 25-year lease is coming under pressure in the competitive London office market. GT can break its lease in years ten and 15, while Chemical Bank has break clauses in years one, five and 15. Alban Gate rents are thought to be about £30 a sq ft, payable after two rent-free years.

## Johnson Matthey buys US titanium supplier

JOHNSON Matthey, the specialist precious metals groups, has bought "for several millions of dollars" the Alta Group of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Alta is the world's leading supplier of high-purity titanium. At the request of the vendors, JM is not disclosing the price paid, but says Alta has a good profits record, and in 1991 achieved a turnover of \$10 million. Alta's net assets at December 31 were \$5 million.

The acquisition will make an immediate contribution to JM's profits, and will further strengthen the group's existing American manufacturing operations. High-purity titanium is used extensively in the semiconductor industry.

## HSBC's \$75m provision

HSBC Holdings, parent company of Midland Bank, will make a \$75 million provision for the quarter ending this month after a review of the \$2 billion-plus assets of its subsidiary Concord Leasing Inc. HSBC Holdings has also made a capital contribution of \$100 million to Concord. HSBC said Michael O'Hanlon, president and chief executive of Concord, and Richard Parkes, executive vice-president, have resigned and operational management of Concord has been assumed by an HSBC executive.

## Greenacre flourishes

GREENACRE Group, the nursing home operator run by Tony Acton, lifted pre-tax profits by 60 per cent from £377,000 to £505,000 in the six months to July 31 on turnover of £2.1 million (£1.3 million). Earnings per share were 0.45p (0.27p). The interim dividend rises to 0.13p (0.125p). The company, which changed its name from Brewmaker in November 1990, has 384 beds and reserves of £2 million to fund future developments. The new 60-bed Trowbridge Oaks Nursing Home opens on October 1.

## UK oil output rises

UK NORTH Sea oil output rose to 1.80 million barrels per day, up from 1.76 million in July, while Norwegian production fell by 5 per cent to 2.01 million bpd, according to a monthly survey by Arthur Andersen, the consultant. The report said UK output was at its highest level since February due to substantial increases in production from Brent, where the Alpha and Bravo platforms reopened after a shutdown in June. A fall of 108,000 bpd from the Statfjord field was the main cause of the fall in Norwegian output, the report said.

## Consort for Sherwood

SHERWOOD Computer Services, the USM-quoted software house, is acquiring Consort Data, a specialist supplier of computer systems to stockbrokers, for up to £1.06 million. Consort supplies systems to Stock Exchange members to enable efficient management of their back-office operations. Consort has more than 30 customers representing about 10 per cent of the market and its systems process some 8 per cent of all bargains transacted on the exchange.

## TNT's Abeles resigns

SIR Peter Abeles, managing director of TNT, the Australian transport group, announced his resignation yesterday. Sir Peter, aged 68, who will retain his position as joint head of Ansett Airlines, will be replaced at TNT by David Mortimer. Sir Peter said he resigned because of the increasing time and effort demanded by his duties to the multinational transport group.

## Standard Chartered wins third big payoff

By JON ASHWORTH

STANDARD Chartered, the international banking group, is in line for its third big legal payoff in less than six months.

The bank has settled proceedings it brought in the New South Wales Supreme Court over an \$A100 million loan to GPI Leisure Corporation, an Australian hotel and leisure group, in May 1988. Standard will receive \$A71.5 million (£29.8 million) in cash, subject to a number of preconditions being satisfied within the next 90 days. A further \$A30 million has been raised from the sale of assets.

The defendants included Australian National Industries, Spedley Securities and two former directors of ANI and Spedley. GPI Leisure was also a plaintiff in the proceedings.

All parties are reasonably confident that the preconditions will be satisfied and that payment will be made. If not, the litigation will resume at the earliest available court date. The settlement will be included in the 1992 accounts.

Standard's shares ended the day unchanged at 467p. The banking group was hit by a high incidence of bad debts after winning an Australian banking licence in 1986. No further cases are pending in the Australian courts.

In June, the bank agreed to an out of court payment of US\$62 million from Coopers & Lybrand to compensate for loans it made to Miniscribe, a former Californian computer company, in 1988.

A month earlier, a court in Arizona decided that Price Waterhouse should pay \$338 million compensation for negligence in preparing the 1985 and 1986 audits of United Bank of Arizona which Standard bought in 1987. Price Waterhouse attacked the verdict as "outrageous, incomprehensible and indefensible," and has appealed.

Proceedings have begun in India in an attempt to recoup US\$376 million in losses stemming from the Bombay financial markets scandal. Standard has made precautionary provisions of £50 million against potential losses.

## Linread in profit at half-time

By COLIN CAMPBELL

LINREAD, the maker of precision components for the aerospace and motor industries, has turned from loss into profit in the six months ended June 27, but in a return to its traditional pattern of dividend payments the half-time payout is 1.5p a share, compared with 2p previously.

Interim pre-tax profits were £1.05 million, compared with a pre-tax loss of £1.37 million last time.

Gearing has been reduced from a December year-end level of 59 per cent to 44 per cent, and heavy losses within the commercial-products division have been eliminated.

Linread says there is increasing pressure on margins in the aerospace sector, but with interim turnover at £20 million (£21.6 million) the group has overall managed to achieve a slightly greater penetration in an generally reduced market.

The Birmingham group gives a warning, however, that economic conditions in Britain and the world at large have increased the uncertainty in the industries it serves, especially in the car sector.

The shares rose 1p to 73p.

## NEC lifts spending at Scottish plant

By KERRY GILL

NEC Semiconductors (UK) yesterday announced a further £9 million investment at its plant at Livingston, West Lothian. Tadashi Suzuki, the company's senior executive vice president, disclosed plans to expand the plant's wafer fabrication manufacturing capacity and to introduce a new high technology "order processing system."

NEC, the world's largest manufacturer of semi-conductors, set up its Scottish operation exactly ten years ago. The business has grown to occupy

a 40-acre site. Investment in the plant has reached £175 million and it employs 830 people.

Jan Lang, the Scottish Secretary said: "It marks ten successful years for NEC in Scotland. During the early years of Locate in Scotland, NEC was persuaded of the many benefits offered by the Scottish location. The qualities of the Scottish workforce, productivity levels and the operating environment are all reflected in the spectacular growth of NEC's operation in Livingston."

Mr Suzuki said he expected that the semiconductor business would be three times bigger by the year 2000 than at present and that NEC was determined to remain the premier semiconductor company in the world. "Our basic policy is to get a better service to our customers with better products which should be produced at the nearest place to our customers. The most advanced semiconductor technology is available at the Livingston plant which gives better quality, better cost and better delivery to the European market and its customers than other suppliers," he said.



Lang: spectacular growth

## SEC casts its net beyond Wall Street

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON  
IN NEW YORK

THE Securities and Exchange Commission, which cracked down on insider dealing by investment bankers in the 1980s, is now getting tougher on white-collar crimes by individuals far removed from Wall Street.

Two cases announced last week show the SEC is aggressively applying rarely used sections of the share dealing laws and is casting its net wider to find those who profit from non-public material information. The cases involve 25 people from whom the SEC is seeking more than \$22 million in repaid profits, fines and other penalties. The SEC usually claims the original profit, plus three times its value with interest.

Those involved include a public-relations office, a secretary, an electrician, a chemist, a property developer, an accountant and a nightclub owner.

In one case, centring on Grand Metropolitan's 1988 takeover of the American

food group Pillsbury, seven people allegedly made an estimated \$750,000 profit from knowing it was about to happen.

In the second, 18 people are said to have made \$4.5 million when the French hotel group Accor bought the American budget-price Motel 6 chain. SEC investigators say the case is the largest and most extensive it has exposed.

Lawyers say the GrandMet case shows a big shift in the way the SEC is pursuing insider-dealer cases because it charged those who had no fiduciary duty with either of the companies involved.

The principal charges are made against Robert and Theresa Falbo, and Mr Falbo's accountant, Anthony Capricuso. Mr Falbo was an electrician who installed a security system to protect GrandMet's acquisition files and Mrs Falbo was the secretary to a GrandMet executive in America.

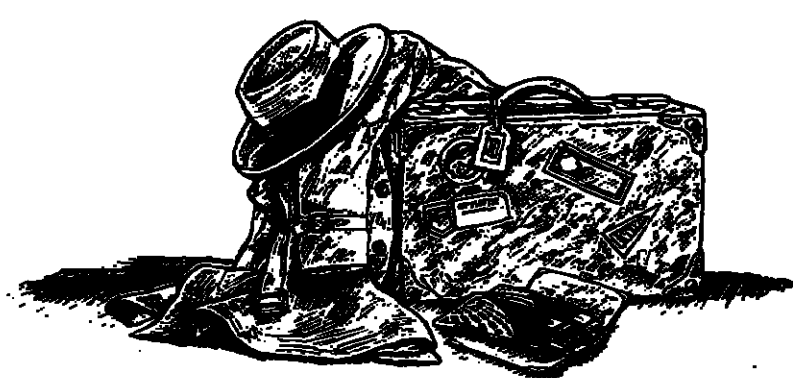
The SEC alleges that a master key to the security system had been kept enabling information to be gathered on the takeover during the summer of

1988. Mr Falbo is said to have shared the information with acquaintances, including Mr Capricuso who allegedly shared it in turn with others. Mr Falbo and Mr Capricuso each face a conspiracy charge and nine criminal charges of securities fraud, carrying jail sentences of up to 95 years.

In the Motel 6 case, the SEC accuses Hugh Thrasher, the chain's vice-president for communications and marketing, of having passed information to his friend Carl Harris. Mr Thrasher denies all allegations and says he made no profits from trading by others and did not "tip" anyone illegally.

The SEC says Mr Thrasher provided information to Mr Harris as a gift to a friend he had been supporting financially. Mr Harris died in April. The SEC claims Mr Harris shared the information with his room-mates, family and friends who in turn shared it with friends, including a nightclub owner, property developer and pharmacist and several Californian businessmen.

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are not on the agenda, adding bell, 48. Greg Morgan, 47, and Mike Oxley, 47. Knight

CAROL LEONARD

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## STOCK MARKET

## Pharmaceutical sector suffers

ICI, still regarded as an accurate barometer of British industry, tumbled 63p to £1.48 after giving the City a timely reminder that the recession is far from over.

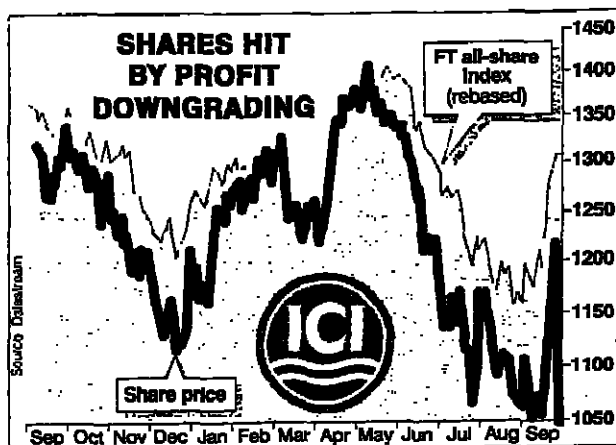
Hoare Govett, one of its own brokers, underlined just how difficult trading conditions remain by carrying out a swinging downgrade of its profit forecasts. Hoare has cut its estimate for the current year by £160 million to £620 million and for 1993 by £125 million to £875 million.

The third quarter, which ends later this week, has been a difficult time for the group, with bulk chemicals continuing to decline, agrochemicals remaining weak and pharmaceuticals coming under increasing generic competition.

Martin Evans at Hoare is forecasting halved pre-tax profits of about £100 million for the period and says there are few signs of recovery.

The ICI share price has been powering ahead since Britain dropped out of the exchange-rate mechanism, amid hopes that the company will benefit from a cheaper pound. But any benefits from the currency markets are likely to be wiped out by deteriorating trading conditions.

"The shares certainly look expensive at around the £12 level," he says. Prices and volume levels in bulk chemicals have been falling for some time and show no sign of recovery. "We took the view that the figures just did not add up, so we took a red pencil to them," added Mr Evans.



Meanwhile, the pharmaceutical sector remained under a cloud upset by persistent American selling because sterling's weakness makes British equities appear expensive. Morgan Stanley, the American securities house, is bearish of the sector, but Andrew Porter says the selling is not justified and urges clients to use the current weakness as an opportunity to buy the shares. He points out that most drug

companies make the bulk of their earnings outside this country. But there were losses yesterday for Glaxo, 24p to 746p, and SmithKline Beecham A. 8p to 473p. Merrill Lynch, the broker, also downgraded profit estimates for Wellcome, leaving the price 41p lower at 909p.

The rest of the equity market suffered something of a reaction after recent gains. This was prompted by the news from ICI and further volatility on the currency markets, which appears to rule out the prospect of another early cut in interest rates.

The FT-SE 100 index finished near its low of the day 41 down at 2,560, wiping out all of last week's gains. Turnover was 487 million shares, low compared with recent levels. Kingfisher fell 20p to 515p on profit-taking after an analyst's visit to its B&Q DIY division on Friday. Dealers

say a large bull position had built up in the shares before the visit and what analysts saw encouraged them to urge clients to take profits. The share price was not helped by the depressed market backdrop and some gloomy comments from Geoffrey Mulcahy, the Kingfisher chairman, who gave a warning that the devaluation of sterling could lead to higher retail prices.

He is reported as saying that consumer spending patterns had changed for good and that the boom of the 1980s would not be repeated for another ten years. Consumer confidence remained at a low ebb and retailers would continue to experience lower margins.

His comments helped depress the rest of the retail sector with falls recorded in Boots,

Grand Metropolitan appears to have few friends in the City these days after its recent profits warning indicating the final figure is likely to be about the same as last year. Brokers are continuing to downgrade profit estimates. The price fell 26p to 423p with BZW said to have cut its estimate for this year by £20 million to £930 million.

14p to 483p, Body Shop, 13p to 159p, Burton Group, 3p to 37p, Marks and Spencer, 3p to 324p, Next, 14p to 99p, Rainers, 1p to 95p, Sears, 2p to 72p, WH Smith A, 10p to 44p and MFL, 3p to 116p.

Pentos, the bookshops and office stationery group, fell 6p to 77p after Smith New Court, the broker, placed a line of 6.3 million shares with various institutions at 75p. The shares, accounting for almost 5 per cent of the company, are thought to have been part of an agency cross but no indication was given to the identity of the seller.

Allied-Lyons came under further selling pressure, falling 5p to 606p as Société Générale Strauss-Turnbull followed the lead of Hoare Govett and downgraded its profit estimates. There was little support for the rest of the drinks sector with Bass down 5p to 560p, Wolverhampton & Dudley 6p to 544p, Boddington Group 2p to 176p, and Greenalls 2p to 392p. Merrydown was another weak market with shares of the USM-quoted company dropping 43p to 255p after a warning to shareholders at the annual meeting that the cider market will show only slight growth on the year because of difficult trading conditions.

Guinness perked up to recover an early fall and close all-square at 552p on the news that its French associate, Moët Hennessey Louis Vuitton had bought a further 11 million shares, taking its total holding in the company to 24 per cent. Warburg Securities is reckoned to have paid about 555p for the shares.

MICHAEL CLARK

## TEMPUS

## Profit downgrade helps ICI share composition

PRIVATELY, ICI might feel like thanking the broking fraternity, and Hoare Govett in particular, for chucking a pot of red paint over 1992 profit estimates, thereby bringing the share price back into more sober frame.

Yesterday's sharply downgraded forecasts, suggesting that 1992 pre-tax profits might be £620 million (or 55.4p a share) instead of an earlier hoped for £780 million, compared with 1991's actual pre-tax profit of £843 million, prepares the ground for the third-quarter profits statement on October 29. It is widely believed that that will make horrid reading.

In July, ICI took the sting out of poorer interim results that showed pre-tax profits to end-June had fallen from £507 million to £420 million by unveiling its master plan to split, in 1993, into two — ICI Bio, and ICI The Rest.

Dusting down the old group to make the two parts look like new pins ahead of their market "debut" makes good corporate sense. But since 1993 profits hopes have also been sharply lowered — from £1 billion to £875 million — ICI could have a harder time from here on in convincing investors of the wisdom of its proposed split. Why buy shares in two companies, neither of whose fortunes look rosy?

ICI can not have welcomed the rotten business climate, nor the wild swings in currencies, that have opened up fresh cracks in its 1992 profits profile. Nor can it be comfortable that there is no early relief in sight.

One saving investment grace is that the 1992 dividend should be held at 55p a share, though cover will be a paper thin. Preservation of cash will be 1993's challenge, and miserable profit forecasts will make the question of 1993's dividend an issue that will not go away.

At £1.45, down 63p, and on 14.8 times 1993 profit hopes, ICI shares are still at a premium to the market. There could be more red paint against the price yet.

## Kwik-Fit

SHARES in Kwik-Fit Holdings are selling for little more than a third of their value earlier this year, and have lost a further 15 per cent since the full impact of the downturn in the replacement tyre market was reflected in the group's interim figures a couple of weeks ago. The question is, has the



Brakes are on: Tom Farmer, chairman of Kwik-Fit

been overdone, and is Kwik-Fit ready for a fast fix. At 82p, the shares are still valued at 12 times current expectations of this year's earnings, which scarcely makes them cheap, particularly given the change in sentiment engendered by the group's apparent surprise at the severity of the recession in its prime market.

It was at the end of July, five months into the company's year, that the market got wind of a problem, and Tom Farmer, chairman and chief executive, gave warning that sales were down. His failure to convey the extent of the damage led to a steeper slide in the shares when profits were seen almost to have halved, from £16.7 million to £9.7 million. The swell in demand for tyres, driven by new legislation, that lifted sales in January and February, subsided in the spring, since when, Mr Farmer claims, motorists have been putting off the necessary.

What should not be overlooked, meanwhile, is the strong balance sheet, where end-August debts of about £6 million are expected to evaporate by the year-end, and the ample cover still available for the dividend, even at current profit levels. Winning back its former rating is beyond Kwik-Fit in the near-term, and the shares may remain largely

friendless until after the full results, but it may not be too early to tuck a few away.

## Resort Hotels

NEWS of seven new contracts to manage almost 300 bedrooms in west London failed to disturb the Resort Hotels share price, which, at 37p, still languishes a long way short of its 1992 peak of 89p, despite support from a growing army of analysts.

The company's fans like the new policy of concentrating on management contracts, welcome a better balance sheet, which sees the group ungearred, and point to the fall in the share price as a good opportunity to buy. Resort runs a three-star network of hotels, while only a demand for turnover related to leisure. Yesterday's deal filled a notable absence in the geographic portfolio.

The market's concern centres largely on the complex arrangements under which Resort has agreed to buy two satellite firms operating as business expansion schemes. The deals will inflate gearing again, to maybe 50 per cent by April 1994. The group also faces a rising tax charge. On current earnings projections, the shares are selling on a multiple of five times. They have possibilities, but widows and orphans beware.

## Hoskins pubs go to clear debt

Hoskins Brewery, the Leicester brewer, is selling nine of its public houses to Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries for £2.45 million in order to eliminate all of the group's borrowings.

Hoskins also unveiled pre-tax profits ahead 46 per cent to £83,060 in the year to end-March on turnover down to £1.75 million (£2.08 million). Earnings climbed to 1.38p a share, against 1.23p. There is again no dividend.

Maple Leaf Inns, formed in June, has added a further 50 pubs, the majority of them in the Midlands and Wales, to its initial 18 pubs in the North West, which it acquired from Bass last month.

## Drummond sinks

Drummond Group, the textiles and property group, gave warning to shareholders not to expect a profit or an interim dividend for the current financial year. Trading has deteriorated, largely due to problems arising from the integration of the Courtauld Woollens business and other production and technical problems within the group's own woollen and worsted divisions.

## Metsec slides

Shares in Metsec slid 27p to 97p after the group, that serves the building, electronic, engineering and construction industries, passed its interim as losses deepened to £568,000 in the six months to end-June (£285,000 loss).

## Reserve Bank paints gloomy picture of S African economy

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

MORE bad news for the South African economy was predicted at the weekend by the Reserve Bank. Its quarterly bulletin says the rate of decline in real gross domestic product for 1992 "could amount to about 1.5 per cent".

The bulletin adds: "It is, however, considerably more difficult to predict at what point in time a lower turning point of the business cycle will be reached."

An upturn in economic activity, the bank says, will depend on the drought ending in the coming rainy season, the extent of growth in the world's leading economies and on domestic political developments.

On at least two of these factors there is reasonably encouraging news.

First, the *El Niño* effect — large-scale oscillations in weather patterns — in the Pacific Ocean, on which this year's drought was blamed, has receded, and it has already been raining in Natal. Second, there was good political news at last on Saturday as President F W de Klerk and Nelson Mandela, president of the African National Congress, finally attended a summit meeting which is expected to lead to a resumption of constitutional talks, and the establishment of an interim government.

Until that happens the decline may well continue. The Reserve Bank reported yesterday that the recession not only deepened in the last quarter but that it also became more widespread throughout the country.

In the first half of this year, it says, decreases were registered in value-added products by most economic sectors, including agriculture, non-gold-mining, manufacturing, construction and wholesale and retail trade.

Not only that but real gross domestic expenditure has shown a declining trend since the second quarter of 1989, that is from well before the present downturn in economic activity. In the second quarter of 1992 real gross domestic expenditure declined at a seasonally adjusted, annualised rate of 6.5 per cent.

"Much more disconcerting," says the Reserve Bank, "has been the substantial decrease in gross domestic fixed investment."

"From a high in the fourth quarter of 1989 until the second quarter of 1992, real gross domestic fixed capital formation declined by almost 19 per cent. Moreover, the largest part of capital expenditure was used to replace existing assets, and not to extend the production capacity of the economy."

The bank adds: "The low level of current investment has serious implications for future economic growth."



Talking heads: F W de Klerk, left, and Nelson Mandela

## AGF falls 24% in first half

FROM REUTER IN PARIS

MICHEL Albert, chairman of Assurances Générales de France (AGF) said the "disappointing" first-half results only partially reflected the sorry state of the European insurance industry.

He said the 24 per cent drop in net attributable profit could hide some favourable trends for AGF. Operating profit in Britain had improved, earnings from damage-insurance business in France were beginning to pick up and life insurance was offering good profitability.

AGF, whose net attributable profit fell from Fr1.84 billion to Fr1.4 billion, was the first French insurer to publish its first-half accounts.

Three factors weighed on first-half results: restructuring costs stemming from overseas investments (Fr180 million), amortisation of goodwill, primarily on foreign acquisitions (Fr146 million), and provisions for real estate risks (Fr190 million).

M. Albert declined to give a forecast for full-year results or estimate damages from the recent storms in southern France. Unconfirmed market talk says total claims will approach Fr1 billion.

Higher rates and cuts in general costs would boost operating profit in France, but monetary upheaval in Europe could hit turnover in Britain and Spain, he said.

## Bosses feel the pinch of recession

BY A CORRESPONDENT

BOSSSES are having their perks and pay packets squeezed in the recession, according to a new survey.

Executive salaries are increasing by an average 6.9 per cent compared with 10.9 per cent a year ago and middle managers' average salary rises are 4 per cent instead of last year's

10 per cent. Bonus payments fell from 16.5 per cent of basic salary to 13.4 per cent for the year ending August 31.

According to the survey, by Noble Lowndes, the pay and benefits consultant, the maximum leasing period on company cars has increased to 60 months from 48 months in 1991.

The upper mileage limit

rose to 120,000 from 80,000 and the proportion of top-of-the-range cars dipped from 14.4 per cent to 14 per cent.

On health care, there was a 17 per cent rise in the number of executives who contributed to their medical insurance premiums and a 15 per cent growth in discount schemes where they paid the whole premium themselves.

## BRITISH FUNDS

1992 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1991 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1990 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1989 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1988 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1987 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

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1973 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1972 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

## Bargain hunters lift Dow

New York — Bargain hunters helped shares edge up, but investors remain skittish, analysts said. The Dow Jones industrial average was up about seven points at 3,257 in the late morning.

□ **Tempus** — Stocks fell sharply after the Nikkei average closed down 422.15 points or 2.29 per cent at 17,972.61. Prices fell on futures-linked sales.

□ **Frankfurt** — A report saying Volkswagen, the car maker, would have heavy operating losses in 1992 hit German shares, pushing the DAX index 40.30 points down to 1,473.06, a 1992 low.

□ **Sydney** — Shares closed slightly higher after hovering in negative territory most of the day. The All-Ordinaries index ended 0.1 up at 1,496.5.

## UNDATED

1992 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1991 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1990 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1989 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1988 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

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1974 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1973 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1972 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

1971 High Low Stock Price % Chg Int Yld Div Yld

## MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:			
Charter Cons	543p (+8p)		
ADT	400p (+12p)		
FALLS:			
Barclays	363p (-12p)		
Lloyds	452p (-14p)		
SG Warburg	515p (-19p)		
Booker	378p (-11p)		
Body Shop	159p (-13p)		
Cunard	498p (-19p)		
Amersham	465p (-17p)		
BOC	678p (-12p)		

## RECENT ISSUES

Birkby 100%	95	+	Shirecon	495	...
Broadgate Inv Trust (100)	95	...	TR Technology Units	1700	...
Broadgate Warrants	33	...	Throg 1000 Smir Co's Wts	13	...
Dartmoor Inv Tr Wts	11	-	Yorkshire TV Warrants	12	-
Dwyer A	19	...			
European Smaller Co's	81	-			
European Smaller Wts	19	...			
Finsbury Smir Co's 0 Pft 14p	14p	...			

## RIGHTS ISSUES

Aviva Petroleum N/P (27)	5	...
Bibby J N/P (115)	1	...

## THE TIMES RENTALS

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## COMMENT

## Dan-Air needs a confidence trick

Like banking, the holiday business depends on confidence. Rumours of trouble, especially financial trouble, can create disproportionate damage and eventually become self-fulfilling. Holidaymakers shy away when the whippersnappers begin to circulate and so do tour operators in case their customers pass on to the next glossy catalogue. So finding a solution to Dan-Air's difficulties was never likely to be easy. The first painstaking capital reconstruction stitched together by David James, chairman of Davies & Newman, Dan-Air's parent company, appeared to be fine. It seemed to provide the time and the finance for Dan-Air to trade out of its pressing difficulties. But however comforting the rows and columns of a cash flow forecast look when freshly printed, they are never more than educated guesses. In Dan-Air's case it was impossible to calculate the damage to confidence of its need to sweet-talk bankers and others into going along with a re-financing. The impact appears to have been more severe than could have been expected.

The confidence problem is much more daunting for a company seeking help for a second time so soon after the last financial reconstruction. This may lead to a chicken and egg problem where bankers and investors hold back in fear that the holiday trade has lost confidence, and the holiday trade walks away in case the money men pull the plug.

One thing is essential to restore confidence, hard cash. Without it Dan-Air would fail the confidence test. Davies & Newman should therefore demand that rescue parties such as Richard Branson's Virgin group quickly put up some money to accompany their fine words of support. If it is not forthcoming, the doughty Mr James and colleagues should look elsewhere for backing. Their airline has highly prized takeoff and landing slots, a sizeable slice of the package tour market in Britain and is a fine base for expansion once the recession is over.

## Punt pressure

If sterling's exit from the exchange-rate mechanism was precipitated by an unfortunate and ill-timed rumour, then so was yesterday's panicky decision by the Bank of Ireland to raise the short-term facilities rate by three percentage points to 13.75 per cent. Yesterday's rumour concerns apparent Franco-German plans for a monetary "mini-Europe", presumably with Ireland on the outside. As was the case with the rumour which led up to sterling's suspension from the ERM two weeks ago, this one has been strongly denied. Yet it is only too plausible. The Irish punt has been one of the weakest ERM currencies after the French referendum and had to be propped up by extreme measures. These included the reintroduction of exchange controls last week, and yesterday's board interest rate rise.

The markets would have perhaps been even more ferocious but for prospects, however faint, that Ireland may after all become part of a monetary mini-Europe. Albert Reynolds, the Irish prime minister, said yesterday that if there was a two-speed Europe, Ireland would be in the fast track, since the fundamentals of the Irish economy are "in many respects healthier than Germany's".

The markets will take a sceptical look at such claims. Three other ERM currencies remain under a cloud. At the bottom of the range are the two Iberian currencies, definitely "non-core". Most peculiar is the position of Denmark. The Danish finance minister said yesterday that, while a monetary mini-Europe would not be desirable, Denmark would want to take part in the fast-lane if it cannot be avoided. This puts the Danish "ney" to Maastricht into perspective. The mini-Europe may be rather larger than expected.

Mark Newman

examines how BT's main competitor is planning to extend its business with a national advertising campaign

Six years after opening its public telephone service, Mercury Communications is at last preparing for a major assault on BT's monopoly of the residential and small business market. A national advertising campaign with the message "Mercury gives you value for money" will reach television screens this autumn.

Rod Attwood, Mercury's newly-appointed managing director, believes that within five to ten years, Mercury will be deriving a third of its revenues from residential customers, a third from small business and a third from large companies. It currently takes 80 per cent of its revenues from large companies, most of the rest from small businesses and only a tiny per cent from residential customers. Mercury has 250,000 residential customers compared to BT's total of 18 million residential lines.

Mr Attwood says that a targeting of the residential market "is the next logical stage of growth for Mercury after having spent five to six years in the business area". The company had to concentrate on the business market initially, he says, to recover its capital investment. The Cable and Wireless subsidiary has so far invested close to £2 billion building its network.

He acknowledges that the thinking behind this is that "it wouldn't make sense to run the risk of keeping all our revenues in one basket". If Mercury could be sure that the top end of the business market continued to show improving growth and profit potential, it might be less concerned about the move down market.

But within the last year, BT has started to provide bulk discount schemes to large users to slow down migration to Mercury. It even has a special "winback" team whose job it is to advise BT account managers on how to lure back customers. The team has targeted 2,000 customers across the UK that it wants to win back.

BT is not the only threat. A number of new companies are planning to enter the UK telecoms market. Like Mercury in its formative years, they will be targeting large businesses. Companies which have already applied to the trade department for telecommunications licences include Sprint, the American long-distance operator; World Com, the Geneva group; as well as Yorkshire Electricity and Scottish Power.

The highly-profitable international telephone services business, meanwhile, is being hit by a downward trend in tariffs resulting from new competition and efforts by large users and international bodies, such as the European Commission, to eliminate the discrepancies between international tariffs and long-distance national tariffs.

Tim Hurst, a telecoms analyst at



Side by side: Mercury aims to move into BT's territory with small business and residential customers

Kleinwort Benson, thinks Mercury has also been influenced by "a need to be seen to get into the residential market". The whole idea of bringing in competition to BT in the early 1980s, he says, "was to give a better deal to the man on the street".

Mercury has been criticised by user groups for failing to give BT a run for its money in the residential telephone business. Mr Hurst says: "It is not in Mercury's interest to create an environment where the government wants to bring in more competition."

Even if Mercury had wanted to move into the residential market before now, its dependence on other operators to deliver its long-distance and international services to customers would have limited the number to whom it could offer a service.

Because Mercury has no intention of duplicating BT's network of cable, it has to carry the first leg of any call on BT lines until it reaches the nearest Mercury switch. International calls are handled over by Mercury to the operator in the relevant country. National calls are delivered right to the called party, if they are directly connected to Mercury. But in most instances, Mercury has to hand the call back to BT.

A better solution for Mercury is to link up with a different local tele-

phone company. The cable television companies are the only option at present, although in future, Mercury is optimistic that local operators will set up using radio signals.

As far as carrying calls over BT lines is concerned, this requires costly modifications to be made to BT exchanges so that they can pick up Mercury calls. BT and Mercury have been quibbling over how much Mercury should pay for these modifications for several years. For a long time, Mercury was only able to reach 50 per cent of the country's telephone subscribers. Even now, it can only reach 80 per cent of subscribers.

The problem with using the cable television companies to deliver long-distance services is that Mercury has had to wait for them to build their local television and telephone networks. The cable television companies have struggled to meet the deadlines for building their networks laid down by Ofcom, the telecoms regulator, and only within the last year have they begun to take on subscribers in large numbers. In the first six months of this year, cable companies installed nearly 27,000 lines, an increase of 125 per cent. Mercury's residential advertising

campaign will drive home the message that it is cheaper than BT for long-distance calls. Which? the Consumers' Association's magazine, ran a survey of BT and Mercury services in August and found that at economy rates, Mercury cuts BT charges by between 28 per cent and 41 per cent on long-distance calls and by up to 20 per cent on international calls. It advised consumers to switch to Mercury if they spent more than £12 a quarter on calls outside their local areas during economy periods. Below this, Mercury is not worth considering because there is an £8.81 a year subscription charge and you also have to buy a special Mercury compatible phone. This is in addition to BT rental charges.

Soon, however, there will be no need to buy a special Mercury phone. Mercury's advertising campaign will coincide with the launch of a new service aimed at the residential market called Easy Access. Any phones will be able to access the Mercury network — even the old rotary dial telephones — although it will still cost £8.81 a year for the right to do so.

All you need to do to make a call via Easy Access is dial 132 and proceed with the call. When you have a Mercury phone, you have to press a

special blue button before making a call.

There is one drawback, however. With the blue-button and 132 options, if the caller forgets to press the blue button or dial 132 first, the call will automatically be routed via BT. Mercury would like to introduce a service available for some time in America called equal access.

Mercury's advertising campaign will tell the public about the benefits it can offer without going into the specifics about whether you are better off buying the service from a cable television company, a Mercury phone type subscription or Easy Access. This, after all, could confuse the subscriber.

The company wants people to follow up their interest in its advertising by calling and finding out how they can take Mercury. The operator will then be able to tell the caller whether cable television is arriving soon, if it is possible to take an indirect connection and whether or not he or she needs to buy a new telephone. If Mercury is not available in the caller's particular area, Mercury will be able to say when it is due to arrive.

Partnerships with the cable television companies are Mercury's preferred option because it avoids having to use BT. But Mercury's relationships with the cable companies have not been without their problems and in the longer term, they could become competitors rather than partners.

Some operators complain that Mercury has gone after business customers in their franchise areas. Others are unhappy about the margins that they receive from Mercury for telephone calls.

As soon as they have enough subscribers, many cable operators will buy their own switches and become independent operators rather than merely local agents for Mercury. In the longer term, cable television operators in the London area intend to link their networks together, which would mean bypassing Mercury altogether.

These concerns may be behind talks between Cable and Wireless and US West, a regional US telephone operator with stakes in 17 cable television franchises, with a view to selling a stake in Mercury and, possibly, Mercury taking a stake in US West's cable operations.

If US West had a stake in Mercury, there would be little sense in it competing for the same customers, or building separate links to bypass Mercury. On the other hand, Mercury might run the risk of alienating other cable television operators.

Mr Attwood denies, however, that there is any long-term danger of partnerships breaking down. "The task of building a local network is so huge," he says, "it would make more sense to do this as a partnership."

Mercury does realise, however, that some cable television companies might one day decide not to use its services. Mr Attwood is keen, therefore, to develop a range of services and benefits that people associate with Mercury and which they will specifically request from their local telephone company.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

## Not 'resigning' but 'consulting'

THE Terry Smith fallout continues to rock UBS Phillips & Drew where it emerges that Chris Cawcutt, head of personnel, has now resigned. Cawcutt handled the initial disciplinary meeting when Smith, the former P&D head of research, first launched his controversial book, *Accounting for Growth*, in August. Smith was finally fired on September 7 and Cawcutt's resignation letter followed a few days later. Yesterday, a P&D representative denied that Cawcutt had been fired or forced to resign after criticism of the way P&D handled the Smith affair. According to the spokesperson, Cawcutt, in his mid-40s, wants to "pursue a career in consultancy". He was definitely not fired or requested to step down. "Cawcutt will continue to be employed by P&D until the end of the year, although from October it appears he will be seen less in house, his consultancy role taking almost immediate effect. "In fact, he has only agreed to stay on to the year end to handle the Terry Smith affair. He will be acting as a consultant on the matter," P&D said last night.

## Short break

THE old hands at the Stock Exchange know how to have a good joke but one misfired on Friday when Brian Winterford of Winterford Securities put up a spoof Airbreak holiday for auction at the Stock Exchange Veterans dinner. Everyone present knew that



Airbreak had collapsed that day — except, it seems, one senior bond dealer from Warburg. The dealer, who must remain unnamed, seemed determined to outbid Winterford to win the Airbreak holiday for four. Terry Buckland of UBS Phillips & Drew, chairman of the vets, says Winterford was in a frenzy as the Warburg man, somewhat the worse for drink, raised his bid. "He kept upping it by £50 and we thought he'd go on for ever, so Brian let him win at £500," Buckland says. The vet wisely refused the £500 cheque for the non-existent holiday — "We could have been sued," says Buckland — leaving Winterford to donate £500, rather more than he had intended, towards the £15,000 raised for charity.

## Scissors at dawn

THE election of a new Lord Mayor takes place tomorrow and City barbers have their scissors poised anticipating which of them he will favour. Sir Brian Jenkins, the current

Lord Mayor, is firmly wedded to Khops in Bow Lane. Khops' Mr Lee has been cutting Sir Brian's hair for more than 20 years and was given the freedom of the City of London on Sir Brian's recommendation. But rival barber Geoffrey's, next to the Royal Exchange, claims it has been the preferred mayoral choice since 1934. Francis McWilliams, an international arbitrator, expected to be confirmed mayor tomorrow, is keeping them guessing. He lives in St Albans and is not known to have a regular City barber.

## CNW rings

MORE decisive action at County NatWest, with Philip Augar, head of global equities since July, having just recruited specialist salesman Andy Bell, 32, from Kleinwort Benson. Bell and analyst Jamie Stevenson have for four years been Extel's number one team in both building materials and contracting and construction. They were also this year's "All Star" cross-sector team. Bell joins County in January as head of specialist sales where he will be charged with injecting some of his style into other specialist areas. He will, in addition, head sales in conglomerates and other industrial materials. Bell says his great regret will be splitting up with Stevenson, an old personal and family friend. The two came together eight years ago at Savory Millin and moved to Wood Mackenzie. Ironically, they left when NatWest bought the broker in 1987.

DEBRA ISAAC

## Removing occupational pensions from the control of employers

From Sean Hand

Sir, As a pensions lawyer, I found David Blake's article (The Times, September 18) stimulating and thought-provoking.

The single greatest failure of the present legal framework is its inability to cope with the inherent conflict of interest between employers, trustees and beneficiaries in final salary occupational pension schemes.

It seems to me that Mr Blake's proposals would remove most of these conflicts. The characterisation of pensions (as distinct from contributions) as deferred pay, fails to recognise the fact that schemes are primarily intended to be savings vehicles for their members, comprising not only employer contributions, but also employee contributions and investment return.

The fact that an employer chooses to contribute to a pension scheme is hardly justification for the retention of occupational schemes under employer control. Indeed, some employers may welcome release from the responsibilities for administering the schemes which they have established.

Mr Blake's proposal that schemes be completely independent of employers is a logical extension of the separation of assets principle so central in trust law. The independent fund management group would reduce opportunities for employer theft from

schemes and achieve greater security of scheme assets.

Most interesting, however, is Mr Blake's recognition of the need for occupational schemes (including final salary schemes) to match the "portability" of personal pensions and the utilised basis of valuations of accrued benefits.

The inability of many final salary schemes to provide this form of regular investment information is leading many employees to prefer money purchase arrangements, despite the fact that in the long term they may be less beneficial.

If Mr Blake's proposals are too radical for Professor Goodie's Committee to countenance, it may be worth remembering that the government's commitment to achieving a level playing field between different types of pension provision, would be considerably enhanced if employees were entitled to request that employer pension contributions be directed to a scheme of their choice, if they did not wish to join their employer's scheme.

Yours faithfully,  
SEAN HAND  
Cameron Markby Hewitt,  
Sceptre Court,  
40 Tower Hill,  
EC3N.

Letters to the Business and Finance section of The Times can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

## Be magnanimous and forget the trials of Taurus

From Mildred Bateman

Sir, Doctor J. D. Jackson writes, (Business Letters, September 15), of his interest-free loan to his son, the repayment of which is overdue.

Dr Jackson holds his son's only share certificate, of similar value to the loan, as an informal collateral and asks how, with the advent of Taurus, he can prevent the sale of this holding without his own knowledge.

As a parent of three children, each of whom has a university honours degree, I am well conditioned to finding children a dead weight upon one's hands.

Since that time, £4,000 has been contributed to further courses, which were once the distinctive role of the local authorities, for training and promotion.

The net result is that my children have never contributed to this family home, though their visits provide great enjoyment.

My advice to Dr Jackson is to give back the share certificate to his son and declare that the loan is now deemed to have been a gift.

The doctor is a man of far greater substance than his son. He should be concerned that a relationship of mutual regard should last into his latter days.

He should prefer, I so, to be

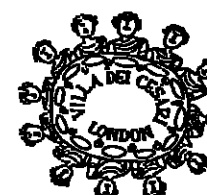
remembered as a magnanimous father than as an old skinflint who exacted terms at a time of no choice.

I would assure him that a new attitude will stand him in good stead.

He can forget Taurus and

all its works in a peace that passeth all understanding!

Yours faithfully,  
MILDRED BATEMAN,  
44 Ridge Road,  
Kingswinford,  
West Midlands.



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are not on the agenda, adding bell, 48, Greg Morgan, 47, and Mike Oxley, 47, Knight

CAROL LEONARD

compromises, Cromer roundly declared that Parliament and government shared responsibility

Yours faithfully,  
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Operations	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Production	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Research	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Sales	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Service	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Support	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Training	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Transport	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Utilities	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Waste	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Wholesale	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Retail	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Food	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Health	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Education	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
Government	76.15	11.55	0.51	0.58
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Mid Cap Ssm	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssm	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssn	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssn	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssn	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Sso	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Sso	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Sso	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssp	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssp	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssp	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssq	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssq	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssq	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssr	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssr	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssr	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Sst	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Sst	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Sst	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssu	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssu	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssu	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssv	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssv	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssv	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssw	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssw	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssw	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssx	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssx	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssx	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssy	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssy	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssy	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssz	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssz	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssz	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssa	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssa	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssa	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssb	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssb	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssb	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssc	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssc	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssc	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssd	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
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Large Cap Ssf	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssg	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssg	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssg	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssh	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssh	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssh	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssi	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssi	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssi	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssj	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssj	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssj	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssk	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssk	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssk	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssl	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Mid Cap Ssl	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssl	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
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Mid Cap Ssr	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssr	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
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Mid Cap Sst	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Sst	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
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Mid Cap Ssu	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
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Mid Cap Ssh	12.00	11.40	-0.60	0.00
Large Cap Ssh	56.52	56.00	-0.54	0.00
Small Cap Ssi	12.			

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Dist of Scott	1,500	Glasco	4,700	Prudential	1,700	TSP	2,200
Drummond	7,100	Granada	1,500	RITZ	2,600	Tate & Lyle	351
Race	340	Grand Met	5,900	Rankin Org	900	Tesco	4,900
Blue Circle	762	Guinness	26,000	Reckitt Col	802	Thames W	600
BSA	1,600	Harley	1,600	Remains	1,300	Thm EMI	1,000
Bowmaker	462	Hanson	4,900	Recht Int	1,800	Thomson	1,000
RIT Armas	2,600	ICT	3,601	Remit Int	250	Unilever	799
Rit Gas	4,000	Inchcape	1,000	Reyes	961	Uni Basc	1,300
Rit Steel	6,300	Kingsfisher	1,000	Rolls Royce	2,000	Vodafone	1,000
Sarnham Dist	4,300	Kwik Save	2,12	Rothmans	500	Wellcome	2,100
Castle Wile	3,800	LABDA	2,800	Rit Bk Scot	1,800	Whitb'd	1,000
Cardham	903	Laubrock	310	Sainsbury	2,400	Witru Kid	791

Financials	09.00 (-0.05)	Long Gift		Sep 92	97.16	97.26	97.16	97.17
Burgins	219.00	Previous open interest: 70212		Oct 92	97.20	97.26	97.16	97.21
SEAQ Volume	487.6m	Japanese Govmt Bond		Dec 92	106.62	106.74	106.61	106.62
USM (Datastrm)	111.74 (-0.36)			Mar 93				106.61

<b>LAST OPTIONS</b>	
Final Declaration	For Settlement
December 10	December 21

ICIS: Beverly, Forte, Hazlewood Foods, ICI,	
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German Govmt Bond	Dec 92	90.60	90.71	90.25	90.34
Previous open interest: 131775	Mar 93	90.68	90.66	90.31	90.48
Three month ECU	Dec 92	90.15	90.21	90.10	90.13
Previous open interest: 10382	Mar 93	90.74	90.79	90.68	90.71
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 92	93.32	93.36	93.18	93.22
Previous open interest: 39463	Mar 93	93.60	93.63	93.49	93.52
Italian Govmt Bond	Dec 92	91.80	91.83	91.00	91.22
Previous open interest: 29523	Mar 93	91.87	92.10	91.60	91.88

## COMMODITIES

**REPORT:** Robusta coffee futures ended down around the day's lows after lacklustre trade, with dealers citing the International Coffee Organisation talks as one of the reasons for slowing the market. The barley market saw its firmest trend continue. White sugar futures showed slight losses. Profit takers in the afternoon session eased the wheat market down but was still showing slight gains.

**ICIS-LOR (London 6.00p):** In the absence of any market moving factors, all oil prices sit the week on an indifferent note.

### CRUDE OILS (Brent FOB)

Brent Physical	20.30
Brent 15 day (Oct)	20.35
Brent 15 day (Nov)	20.35
Brent 15 day (Dec)	20.45

Nmim	2106.00-2113.00	2106.00-2112.00	14-18ds	40-15ds
Montreal	2,135.4-1,545	2,132.2-1,545	0.75%-0.78%	140-15ds
New York	1,717.5-1,731	1,727.0-1,728.0	0.88-0.87pr	2,485-2,46pr
Oslo	10,152.6-10,230.0	10,184.0-10,196.0	6%+12ds	11%-10ds
Paris	4,466.0-5,570.0	4,462.0-4,480.0	11%-10ds	22%-20ds
Stockholm	9,394.0-9,435.0	9,394.0-9,420.0	11%-10ds	22%-20ds
Tokyo	20,123,206.95	20,672,206.93	1-4pr	2%-1-3pr
Viedna	17.66-17.80	17.66-17.75	9%-10pr	1%-1-2pr
Zurich	2,202.7-2,215.4	2,202.7-2,205.8	1-4pr	1%-1-2pr

Source: Eutei

Premium + pr. Discount - ds.

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OTHER STERLING		DOLLAR SPOT RATES	
Argentina peso*	1,711.4-1,742	Australia	1,392.3-1,393.3
Australia dollar	2,409.2-2,415	Austria	1,024-1,026
Bahrain dinar	0.6425-0.6515	Belgium (Com)	29.93-29.97
Brazil cruzeiro*	1072.2-1,075.9	Canada	1,242.8-1,243.3
Cyprus pound	0.748-0.758	Denmark	5,640.5-5,640.0
Finland marka	7.9675-8.0475	France	4,902.0-4,912.0
Greece drachma	320.27-324.73	Germany	1,453.0-1,454.0
Hong Kong dollar	13,349.7-13,359.2	Italy	1,710.0-1,711.0
India rupee	48.36-49.02	Ireland	1,800.0-1,803.0
Kuwait dirham KD	0.9005-0.9075	Italy	1,224.0-1,226.0
Malaysia ringgit	4,332.0-4,336.0	Japan	116.0-116.05
Mexico peso	50.90-50.95	Malaysia	2,207.0-2,208.0
New Zealand dollar	3,210.0-3,222.9	Netherlands	1,637.0-1,640.0
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.339-6.476	Norway	5,885.0-5,910.0

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S Africa rand (fin)	6.9496-7.0966	Singapore	1.24-1.29	1.2990-1.2990
S Africa rand (com)	4.8977-4.9041	Spain	101.50-102.50	
U A E dirham	6.2575-6.3425	Sweden	5.4440-5.4640	
Barclays Bank GTS %	Lloyds Bank	Switzerland	1.2752-1.2762	

MONEY RATES (%)						
Base Rates: Clearing Banks 9 Finance Hse 10%						
Discount Market Loans: Overnight high: 9 Low 8 Week fixed: 9%						
Treasury Bills (Deb): 2 mth 8%; 3 mth 8%; Sell: 2 mth 8%; 3 mth 8%.						
Prime Bank Bills (Deb):	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth	
Sterling Money Rates:	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -8 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Interbank:	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Overnight: open 9%, close 9.	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Local Authority Deps:	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	n/a	9	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Sterling CDs:	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Dollar CDs:	3.14-3.11	n/a	3.09-3.06	3.11-3.08	3.25-3.22	
Building Society CDs:	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>			

ECGD's Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up date: August 28, 1992 Agreed rates Sept 23, 1992 Oct 23, 1992 Scheme 1: 11.38%, Schemes II & III: 11.65%. Reference rate August 1992: 10.25%.

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EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)					
Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3-3/4	3-3/4	3-3/4	3-3/4	3-3/4
Deutschemark:	5-1/2	5-3/4	5-3/4	5-3/4	5-3/4
French Franc:	12-1/2	11-1/2	11-1/2	10-3/4	12-1/2
Swiss Franc:	6-3/4	6-3/4	6-3/4	6-3/4	6-3/4
Yen:	4-1/4	4-1/4	4-3/4	3-3/4	4-3/4

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Barris & Co)		
Bullion: Open \$349.50-350.00	Close \$349.00-349.50	High \$349.50-350.00
Low \$347.40-347.90	Settlement \$347.50-348.00	

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Jan	45	60	80	102	128	157							572
Jun		68		95		125							313

Seq	Open	Close	Open	Close	Trn	Volume
Oct	unq	unq	Nov	unq	Al	unq
					Aluminum H1 Gds (Phone)	6360.0-6365.0
					Nickel (Phone)	6420.0-6430.0
						1260.0-1270.0
						1290.0-1293.5
						6670.0-6675.0
						6680.0-6670.0

Sovereign: Old \$94.00-96.00 (£61.25-60.25) New \$94.00-96.00 (£48.23-50.23)  
Platinum: \$366.10 (£211.45) Silver: \$3.75 (£2.18) Palladium: \$92.75 (£53.55)



**Portfolio Plus**

From your Portfolio Plus card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Price	Yield	Div	P/E
1	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
2	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
3	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
4	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
5	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
6	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
7	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
8	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
9	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
10	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
11	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
12	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
13	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
14	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
15	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
16	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
17	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
18	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
19	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
20	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
21	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
22	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
23	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
24	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
25	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
26	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
27	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
28	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
29	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
30	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
31	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
32	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
33	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
34	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
35	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
36	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
37	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
38	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
39	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
40	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
41	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
42	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
43	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
44	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
45	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
46	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
47	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
48	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
49	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
50	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
51	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
52	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
53	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
54	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
55	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
56	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
57	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
58	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
59	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
60	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
61	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
62	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
63	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
64	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
65	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
66	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
67	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
68	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
69	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
70	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
71	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
72	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
73	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
74	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
75	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
76	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
77	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
78	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
79	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
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81	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
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83	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
84	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
85	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
86	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
87	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
88	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
89	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
90	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
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92	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
93	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
94	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
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96	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
97	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
98	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
99	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0
100	Admiral	Food	100	5.0	5.0	10.0

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Total

**£1,000 MATCH THE SHARES**

If you have ticked off your eighth share in our Match The Shares game today, claim your prize by telephoning 0254 53272 between 10.00am and 5.30pm (see the Sunday Times for full details).

Three readers shared the Portfolio Plus prize yesterday. Mr R Wallace, of Swindon, Mr H Farmiloe, of Le-on-Solent, and Mrs M Tiddy, of Plymouth, each receive £666.66.

1992 High Low Company Price Yield Div P/E

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP									
303	205	Abney NW	77	77	77	77	77	77	77
304	206	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
305	207	Admiral (R)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
306	208	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
307	209	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
308	210	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
309	211	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
310	212	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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319	221	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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321	223	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
322	224	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
323	225	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
324	226	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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326	228	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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333	235	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
334	236	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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339	241	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
340	242	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
341	243	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
342	244	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
343	245	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
344	246	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
345	247	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
346	248	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
347	249	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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353	255	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
354	256	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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363	265	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
364	266	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
365	267	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
366	268	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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374	276	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
375	277	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
376	278	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
377	279	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
378	280	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
379	281	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
380	282	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
381	283	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
382	284	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
383	285	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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386	288	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
387	289	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
388	290	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
389	291	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
390	292	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
391	293	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
392	294	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
393	295	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
394	296	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
395	297	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
396	298	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
397	299	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
398	300	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
399	301	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
400	302	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
401	303	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
402	304	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
403	305	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
404	306	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
405	307	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
406	308	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
407	309	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
408	310	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
409	311	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
410	312	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
411	313	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
412	314	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
413	315	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
414	316	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
415	317	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
416	318	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
417	319	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
418	320	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
419	321	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
420	322	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
421	323	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
422	324	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
423	325	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
424	326	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
425	327	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
426	328	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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436	338	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
437	339	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
438	340	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
439	341	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
440	342	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
441	343	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
442	344	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
443	345	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
444	346	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
445	347	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
446	348	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
447	349	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
448	350	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
449	351	Admiral	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
450	352								



071-481 4481

## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

071-481 9313  
071-782 7828

## Titmuss Sainer &amp; Webb

## SENIOR BANKING LAWYER

Titmuss Sainer & Webb requires an experienced, energetic and ambitious lawyer to join its specialist Banking Unit.

The Unit provides a broad range of banking advice to a growing portfolio of national and international institutions on matters ranging from single lender and syndicated facilities to corporate rescue packages and project financings.

A minimum of four years' experience in banking law is considered essential as are a commitment to the highest standards of client care and well developed inter-personal skills. This new appointment offers a first class challenge to an enthusiastic individual seeking career development within a progressive City practice. The successful candidate will immediately enjoy a high degree of responsibility and direct client involvement.

To reflect the importance of this key position, a generous and competitive remuneration package is offered and partnership is available to the right candidate.

For further information in complete confidence, please contact Richard Launchbury, Head of Administrative Services at Titmuss Sainer & Webb, 2 Serjeants' Inn, London EC4Y 1LT. Alternatively contact our Consultant, Jonathan Brenner, on 071-377 0510 (081-332 0733 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Zarak Macrae Brenner, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY.

ZARAK  
MACRAE  
BRENNER

ZMB

INSURANCE LITIGATORS  
£30,000 - £45,000

We are instructed by one of the City's leading insurance practices with two rare career opportunities which offer the prospect of gaining experience in some of the best quality and most interesting work available.

Our Client, a major law firm with an outstanding reputation in international insurance law, continues to expand. Working closely with partners, the positions offered cover a wide variety of non-marine insurance work with an emphasis on professional indemnity for, amongst others, accountants, brokers and surveyors.

The ideal candidates will be one to three years qualified, with strong academic backgrounds, and will have had at least some experience in contentious insurance work.

The salary and benefits package is highly attractive. This is a thriving, core area of the firm's practice and the prospects are excellent.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Adrian Fox or Alistair Dougall on 071-405 6062 (071-831 0030 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD. Confidential fax: 071-831 6394.

QD  
QUARRY DOUGALL

UNITED KINGDOM · HONG KONG · NEW ZEALAND · AUSTRALIA · USA

## LONDON

## PROPERTY

To £175,000  
Extremely profitable City practice seeks further partner for its property department. Will take a lead role in practice development and will be expected to bring substantial ongoing caseload. Excellent opportunity for a group renowned for its creative commercial approach. Excellent medium term prospects.

## EEC/COMPETITION

To £45,000  
Broadly based City firm seeks ambitious lawyer with 2-4 years' experience, ideally combining EC and domestic competition, to join London office. First rate range of competition, merger, lobbying and general advisory work in a group renowned for its creative commercial approach. Excellent medium term prospects.

## IP/IT

To £45,000  
Pre-eminent IP/IT firm seeks assistant with 3-4 years' experience in non-contentious work in this sphere. Expanding client base includes leading telecom, manufacturing, engineering and computer companies. Candidate needs to have a good working knowledge of EEC law. Excellent prospects.

## CO/CO

To £45,000  
Consistently busy corporate team at recently opened London office of leading national practice seeks further assistant, 2-4 years' qualified, for quality mix of company/commercial work including M&A, joint ventures etc. Some Yellow and Blue book experience an advantage. Excellent interpersonal skills and positive desire to move out of conventional City practice essential.

Jonathan Macrae and Jonathan Brenner are both solicitors with substantial expertise in the sphere of legal recruitment. If you would like any further information in relation to these or any of the other vacancies registered with us, or a completely confidential career consultation, please contact either of us on 071-377 0510 (071-226 1558 evenings/weekends) or write to Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 071-247 5174.

## MEDIA

£Partner  
Pro-active and highly successful medium-sized Holborn firm seeks partner/team with expertise in film, TV and/or music. High profile established client base includes leading figures in leisure management and sponsorship. Excellent record of integration at senior level.

## INSOLVENCY

To £50,000  
Small company/commercial team within well known medium-sized City firm seeks insolvency expert to deal with growing amount of non-contentious work. Ideal candidate will have 3-5 years' City or equivalent experience. Excellent cross-selling opportunities within successful and profitable organisation. First class prospects.

## LITIGATION

To £43,000  
Blue chip medium-sized City practice seeks technically and academically excellent litigator, 2-3 years' qualified, for challenging non-insurance commercial caseload with strong international emphasis. Top City salary and benefits package.

## ENVIRONMENTAL

To £42,000  
Leading international City firm seeks environmental lawyer for split fee earning/research role within dedicated Environmental Law Unit. Excellent cross-selling opportunities. Candidate needs good technical and marketing skills and at least one year's relevant experience in an environmental/planning group elsewhere.

ZARAK  
MACRAE  
BRENNER

ZMB

## LONDON

## FILM LAWYER

## £Partnership

Niche City firm with highly regarded media practice seeks to recruit senior assistant or partner with experience in film/TV law to dovetail with existing practice. Unusual opening. Ref: T7088

## PENSIONS

## To £50,000

Medium sized City firm with prestigious pensions practice seeks assistant with 2+ years' experience to advise on a broad range of high quality pensions work. Excellent opportunity for lawyer wishing to take on more responsible role. Ref: T5853

## COMPANY/COMMERCIAL

## To £45,000

Burgeoning corporate group within top medium sized/large commercial practice seeks 1-3 year corporate lawyer with excellent transactional experience. Outstanding opportunity. First class salary and prospects. Ref: T6463

## BANKING

## To £65,000

Top 10 international City practice seeks experienced banking lawyers with between 2 and 6 years' relevant experience, ideally from similar City background. Partnership prospects excellent within expanding department. Ref: T5482

## PROPERTY LITIGATION

## To £50,000

Major City firm, well-known for the strength of its client base in property/building, seeks litigator with 1-4 years' experience to advise on wide variety of high profile property disputes. Leading City salary. Ref: T6567

## CONSTRUCTION

## To £40,000

2 years qualified construction litigation lawyer sought by market leader in this field, to advise on some of the most interesting and challenging work available. Excellent training and experience. Ref: T6477

## INSOLVENCY

## To £53,000

Commercial 3-5 year qualified insolvency lawyer from recognised City insolvency practice sought by medium sized City firm riding high in current recession. Only those with practice development potential considered. Ref: T7090

## COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

## To £46,000

General commercial litigator sought by growing City office of nationally renowned firm. High quality work will be matched by good long-term prospects. Approximately 3 years' City experience highly desirable. Ref: T6954

## TAX

## c. £27,000

September 1992 qualified with first-rate intellect and excellent analytical abilities wishing to specialise in corporate tax sought by major City practice with exceptional reputation in this specialist sphere. Unique opportunity. Ref: T6653

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Stephen Rodney or Adrian Fox (both solicitors) on 071-405 6062 (071-354 3079 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD. Confidential fax: 071-831 6394.

QD

QUARRY DOUGALL

UNITED KINGDOM · HONG KONG · NEW ZEALAND · AUSTRALIA · USA

## LONDON

## Company Commercial Partner c.£130,000

Thriving Central London practice seeks experienced Corporate Lawyer as departmental head designate. Strong track record, following and good all-round commercial experience in London a prerequisite. Outstanding opportunity. Ref: 365/MS.

## Construction

£Excellent  
Pre-eminent City practice seeks Construction Lawyers at all levels from newly qualified to partnership level with both contentious and non-contentious experience. Ref: 369/MS.

## Pensions

c.£120,000+  
Senior Pensions Lawyer (and possibly team) required for City practice committed to expanding this area of its practice. Exceptional opportunity for experienced practitioner(s). Ref: 366/MS.

## Private Client

to £48,000  
City firm with small but highly successful private client department seeks 3-5 years' qualified Solicitor to service existing client base. Off-shore trust and more general private client experience a prerequisite. Ref: 367/MS.

## Intellectual Property

to £45,000  
3-4 years' qualified non-contentious I.P. specialist required to carry out mixed caseload of patents, copyright, trademarks work often with EC element. Good academics necessary for this dynamic practice. Ref: 368/MS.

Please contact KAREN MULVHILL or MICHAEL SILVER on (071) 404 4646 (day) or (071) 538 8391 (eve) or write to Daniels Bates Partnership Ltd., 17 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4QH. Fax: (071) 831 7969.

## Commercial Litigation Partner £250,000

Solicitor to £49,000  
Dynamic City firm seeks Partner who is a marketeer to join litigation group handling a wide range of burgeoning litigation. You will have handled top quality work and have excellent client contacts/following to £39,000.

A second position exists for a Solicitor 2-4 years' PQE to handle high quality caseload. Ref: 361/KM.

## Professional Indemnity Insurance Partner

to £200,000  
Medium sized practice seeks 2 year PQE Lawyer for top quality work. A senior Solicitor is also sought to act for leading insurance companies. A client following is essential in this role. Ref: 362/KM.

## Banking

to £80,000  
Strong partnership prospects on offer to high flying Solicitor with 4-6 years' PQE; from a City firm to handle wide variety of work on behalf of international and domestic clients. Ref: 363/KM.

## Insolvency

to £50,000  
Medium sized City firm seeks Solicitor with 2-5 years' City experience to handle broad spread of contentious and/or non-contentious insolvency work. Strong practice development skills essential. Good partnership prospects on offer with this dynamic practice. Ref: 364/KM.

Daniels  
Bates  
Partnership  
LEGAL RECRUITMENT  
& HUMAN RESOURCESNottingham (0602) 483321  
Cardiff (0222) 225512  
West Midlands 071 404 4646

## Commerce/Industry

## CO./COMM.

LONDON  
This organisation requires an additional legal adviser. Applicants should have 2-5 years' commercial experience with an emphasis on contracts. Ref: 1619

## OIL

LONDON  
For a No. 2 position, this large international oil company seeks a senior legal adviser, aged 35+, with at least 5 years' relevant experience. Ref: 1496

## GENERAL

CITY  
A unique position exists for an articulate, numerate and personable solicitor or barrister, aged 40+, to join this leading investment trust as a pensions trustee adviser. Ref: 1237

## COMPLIANCE

CITY  
We currently have several instructions with European, American and Japanese Banks based in the City. Applicants are required with 2-6 years' compliance experience. Ref: 1058

All our consultants are fully qualified lawyers with extensive recruitment experience. All approaches are treated in the strictest confidence and we never send out your CV without your express consent.

## Private Practice

## COMPANY SECRETARIAL

LONDON  
An experienced company secretary is sought by this large firm of solicitors to become deputy head of the company secretarial department. Ref: 1152

## BANKING LITIGATION

CITY  
A senior litigator, at or near partner level, with excellent contacts is required to help develop this expanding firm's client base. Ref: 1650

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

CITY  
Our client, a major City firm, seeks an IP expert with experience of high tech or science based industries to handle contentious and non-contentious work. Ref: 312

## CORPORATE TAX

CITY  
A tax specialist with 2-4 years' post qualification experience and a 'top 10' background is sought by this leading City firm. Ref: 1621

LAURENCE  
SIMONS  
ASSOCIATES  
Legal Recruitment

## Commerce/Industry

## CO./COMM.

MIDDLESEX  
This international organisation, a global leader, is looking to recruit its 1st lawyer to establish a legal department. Applicants must have 1-3 years' in-house experience. Ref: 1513

## PROPERTY &amp; COMMERCIAL

NORTH  
This multinational company seeks a solicitor or barrister with a minimum of 2 years' experience to handle a mixture of commercial property and company work. Ref: 1689

## CONTRACTS

ESSEX  
This international company seeks a commercial manager with MOD experience to head a small department handling a range of contract related work. Ref: 1316

## PART TIME

SURREY  
The major financial institution seeks a lawyer with in-house experience to work part time to assist the head of legal services with a range of general commercial work. Ref: 1669

Please telephone Shona McDougall, Naveen Tuli or Robert Wilkinson on 071-831 3270 (071-483 1899 evenings/weekends) or write to: Laurence Simons Associates, 33 John's Mews, London WC1N 2NS. Fax: 071-831 4429.

## Royal College of Nursing of the United Kingdom

## SOLICITOR

c.£29,000

The Royal College of Nursing is the world's largest professional union of nurses. The RCN provides a legal advice and representation service to its members.

The Legal Department is devolving to meet the increased demands from a membership growing both in numbers and in awareness of legal rights. We now seek a solicitor for the four Thames Regions, based in our headquarters in London. You will liaise closely with RCN staff and members in the Thames Regions.

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Closing date for completed application forms 12 noon Wednesday 26 October. Interviews 11 and 13 November 1992.



## Sally Hughes looks at the unfamiliar area of mass environmental litigation



A community's fears: anti-nuclear power demonstrators greet visitors at an open day at Sellafield. Leukaemia claims will be heard next month

## Fighting the polluters

Christopher Key, a partner in the law firm Sproules, Bodmin and Camelford, used to spend his summer holidays on the Cornish beach and his evenings sailing. That was until 1989. Almost overnight his caseload of 200 active files increased to 350 as waves of new clients arrived with claims against the South West Water Authority.

The authority had negligently dumped 20 tonnes of aluminium sulphate in Camelford's drinking water. Contrary to the authority's claim that the water was safe to drink, many local people suffered short-term and long-term symptoms, which they blame on the incident.

Mr Key laid up his boat early that year and buckled down to deal with one of the UK's first mass actions against polluters. This is a new area for lawyers.

The skills and logistics of getting such a big show on the road pose enormous practical problems and diverge from traditional practice, rooted in the individualisation of conflict. The subject matter and aspects of the law are unfamiliar territory for the courts — so much so that Charles Pugh, a barrister, and Martyn Day, a solicitor, have written *Toxic Torts*, a guide for professionals, support groups and anybody else interested in this litigation minefield.

The area is so new that actions begun in the late 1980s are just beginning to reach the courts. Next month the claims of childhood leukaemia sufferers from the area around Sellafield will be tried in the High Court. In November the Court of Appeal will consider the pre-trial issue of whether to strike out the Camelford residents' claim that exemplary damages be awarded on top of the usual compensation for personal injury. This means that at least three years after proceedings started the claims have not reached the courts.

Ten of Mr Key's clients are still pursuing court cases. Other



Playing safe: bottled water had to be used at Camelford

have settled. Other plaintiffs were represented by different solicitors. Mr Key's involvement was a kind of accident of geography, typical in pollution cases, which resulted, as *Toxic Torts* says, in his being "thrown in at the deep end". In fact, Mr Key is a personal injury specialist in his locality, and says that merely being in a country in a country practice does not rule out the availability of expertise. "All around the country there are bright people who are able to take on such cases and fight them hard," he says. "No matter who handles it, it is always difficult dealing with a big defendant with tons

of money." Luckily his firm had just installed a new computer system and soon evolved standard forms and precedents to lighten the load of sheer paperwork. Working hours increased drastically. Thus far, this familiar, however, all the recent "disaster" cases have benefited from a certain amount of collective action by lawyers, generally in the form of a steering committee that decides tactics and pools information.

Mr Key found it difficult to work as part of a steering committee, being accustomed to having the sole care of one case at a time. "It is hard to

make decisions that are fair to everybody's clients," he says. But these practices are in their infancy.

In future the plaintiff's hand will also be strengthened by new legal aid contracts for multi-party actions, available since June,

which aim to deal with claims en bloc, to award "generic" work to one firm able to submit the strongest tender, and to get money moving into the work fast. This is also an area, say Mr Pugh and Mr Day, "where it is highly appropriate for the lawyer to take an interventionist role".

Solicitors and law centres, particularly those who are near the pollution hot spots, are developing a more proactive strategy.

The Camelford claims were "client-initiated" — clients knew they should go to a lawyer. However, in other cases those affected may not realise they can take action, often because the complex links between cause and effect are obscure.

Plaintiffs' lawyers must gather and deploy scientific knowledge, ahead of a potential action. This means not only keeping up with medical and scientific research, but also being prepared some times to go ahead without wholehearted scientific support when illness is "obviously" caused by pollution.

A court will decide for the plaintiff if it believes that the pollution was more likely than not to have caused the injury. A 51 per cent probability will weigh on the winning side.

The scientific community, however, will not admit a causative link to its canons without 95 per cent certainty.

Nevertheless, the sheer quantity of science can be daunting. The pre-trial disclosure process in the Sellafield cases took two years and has resulted in what Mr Pugh and Mr Day estimate to be hun-

dreds of thousands of pages of scientific documentation alone.

These are high stakes cases. The cost of the Sellafield trial could run to £20 million. If liability is shown, the future cost of radiation poisoning to Britain's nuclear industry will be immense.

Mr Key has been deservedly re-united with his boat this summer. For lawyers all over the country, however, the coming fight for the environment could be their finest hour.

● *Toxic Torts*, written by Charles Pugh and Martyn Day, is available from Cameron Map. The price is £46, including postage and packing.

## The scientists demand 95 per cent certainty to prove cause

however, the coming fight for the environment could be their finest hour.

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## An Act of faith in the wisdom of the courts

JUDGES, magistrates, criminal practitioners, probation officers and others will have to alter some of their practices under the Criminal Justice Act 1991, which comes into force on Thursday. The Act imposes a more rigorous framework on sentencing, introduces "unit fines" to all courts, abolishes the former remission and parole system, places 17-year-olds in new youth courts, and makes other changes to children's evidence.

The Act contains important principles from which attention can be distracted by other, obscurely worded provisions. Several sections restrict courts, but the main structure leaves them with wide discretion, especially in applying "the seriousness of the offence" concept. It aims to foster a partnership between Parliament, which would decide the general principles, and the courts, which would develop the practical details. Whether the partnership will work may depend on whether judges and magistrates are persuaded. There are three potential sticking points.

● The Act can be taken to outlaw "exemplary sentences" disproportionate to the seriousness of the offence. But might the courts regard an offence as more serious because of its prevalence, such as an outbreak of joy-riding? If so, would this not undermine the Act by reintroducing exemplary sentences?

● Second, the Act says an offence is not more serious just because the offender has previous convictions, although courts may mitigate for a good record. The aim is to prevent heavy sentences on people who commit several minor offences. To what extent will section 29 (2), allowing courts to consider whether "the circumstances of other offences" aggravate this offence, be used to circumvent the basic principle?

● Third, where courts are sentencing a defendant for more than two offences, the decision on whether the case is serious enough for a community sentence or custody must be taken by considering only two of the offences. The aim is to stop several minor offences being aggravated so that the offender is dealt with as a major

criminal. Will section 29 (2) be adapted to dilute this principle, too?

Lord Taylor, the new Lord Chief Justice, must give guidance swiftly if inconsistent interpretations are not to take root.

The criminal appeals office must be urged to direct suitable cases to his court at the earliest opportunity, so that he and his colleagues can lay down interpretations of section 29 (2) and other controversial provisions. One of Lord Lane's achievements as Lord Chief Justice was to develop the technique of the sentencing guideline judgment. Lord Taylor should now take the difficult but necessary step of applying this technique to common crimes such as theft. The Magistrates' Association has issued informal guidance for magistrates' courts, but for the crown court there is virtually nothing on these everyday offences. One effect of the abolition of remission and discretionary parole for prisoners serving less than four years is that many sentences of this length will now mean longer inside. The Carlisle Committee, which recommended the changes, said the courts must cut sentences to compensate. The Act, sadly, says nothing about this. The Lord Chief Justice must announce that this should be done, and say how it should be achieved. The first year will be a test of power and duty. The government has

made the Act's policies clear: long sentences for serious offenders and for the "dangerous", more community sentences and less prison for the less serious offenders, particularly those who commit several minor offences. Will the Court of Appeal be tempted to endorse the policies that accord with previous practices and to "read down" other sections? Will the lower courts follow suit, or will they strive to retain as many of their former practices as possible?

ANDREW ASHWORTH

● The author is professor of law at King's College London. His book, *Sentencing and Criminal Justice*, was published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson in August.



Inside: will sentences be shorter?

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## Pricey London

LAWYERS in big City law firms are now the world's dearest. The 1993 *International Financial Law Review 1000*, the law firms directory, out next week, finds that a partner in a City firm costs an average of \$585 (about £344) an hour, compared with a top American rate of \$350. UK firms are followed closely by German lawyers, average \$510, and the Swiss, \$445. During the past year, British firms have raised rates by 20 per cent, partly reflecting the pound-dollar rate and the tendency to calculate rates on fewer billable hours than do Americans.

## Green court

LORD Justice Woolf, who takes his seat in the House of Lords this week, is leading the call for a "one-stop shop" European environmental court. At the International Bar Association in Cannes last week, he said the "amorphous corpus" of legislation making up what is known as environmental law creates "problems of adjudication which are quite distinct from those which our existing courts are best equipped to deal with". Enforcement was particularly

## INNS AND OUTS

important for supra-national environmental issues. Member states would not happily enforce directives if they were being flouted by other states. He proposed a model similar to that in New South Wales, where a land and environmental court covers environmental issues, with both criminal and civil jurisdictions. Its procedures are simple and speedy. "It is what can be described as a 'one-stop court'," he said.

## On the attack

WHILE legal aid lawyers were digesting their proposed new pay rates published last week, Stephen Gilchrist, of Hart Fortgang, was at the International Bar Association rallying against government policy. He said the profession had no "confidence in the government's ability or integrity to deal properly with the legal aid scheme" or provide for "those vulnerable clients for whom the profession acts". His audience included people from countries where basic human rights are ignored and the poor are denied access to the law. In the Philippines, 70 per cent of people cannot afford a lawyer except on a no-win-no-fee

basis, and the lawyer takes 60 per cent of the award. So there was some longing to have problems like Mr Gilchrist's.

**Stars of the Bar**  
THE International Bar Association meeting attracted nearly 3,000 lawyers eager for



a mixture of sun, sea, law and cocktails. The sumptuous opening buffet on the beach, with food from all the regions of France and fireworks, attracted a crowd looking out for movie stars. They soon left when they found only lawyers, but not before a few kind locals offered to conduct a

whip-round for the legal profession, which was obviously suffering badly from the recession.

## Picture this

BACK in London, lawyers were out in force for the private view of a watercolours exhibition by the Alexander Brothers, Gregory and Matthew, at the Catto Gallery, sponsored by KPMG Management Consulting Europe. They were too shellshocked by the news of the economy and sterling's collapse to dig deep into their pockets, but amid talk of rapid descent the former international diver, Frank Duffy, of Cameron Markby Hewitt, entertained his audience with a replay of great dives from the Barcelona Olympics. His description of how to take a running jump was the only one not directed at Norman Lamont.

## Swift justice

LORD Williams QC and John Rowe QC, chairman and vice-chairman of the Bar respectively, who were in Argentina recently to advise the country on adopting an English-type system, were surprised to learn that the justice minister, Dr Leon Arslanian, resigned immediately after seeing them. He was protesting about judges being appointed on criteria other than merit.

SCRIVENOR

are not on the agenda, adding bell, 48, Greg Morgan, 47, and Mike Oxide, 47, Knight

CAROL LEONARD

tors. Cromer roundly declared that Parliament and government shared responsibility

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# Dangers lurk for directors

Members of a company board are not automatically exempt from blame and personal responsibility for their actions.

Philip Goldenberg explains the pitfalls

**K**evin Maxwell's £406 million bankruptcy may have sent a shiver down the spines of some of Britain's board directors. To what extent can company directors find themselves personally liable for the debts of the companies they manage?

The sums in the Maxwell case are exceptional but all company directors can be victims of the same legal pitfalls.

The first lesson for any student of company law is that a company is a distinct legal person and accordingly that those who own or manage it are not personally liable for its debts. This privilege of trading with limited liability was, from the 1870s onwards, a significant engine of economic growth, matched by a concomitant obligation of public disclosure.

The veil of incorporation, however, may be lifted and those involved in running a company's affairs, in particular its directors, may be exposed to personal liability, in a number of ways.

● **Guarantees:** Banks and other large creditors are not devoid of sense. Accordingly, where a small company is managed by its owners, personal guarantees may often be sought. This is also true in the case of a small subsidiary of a large group of companies, where the parent company may similarly be asked for guarantees.

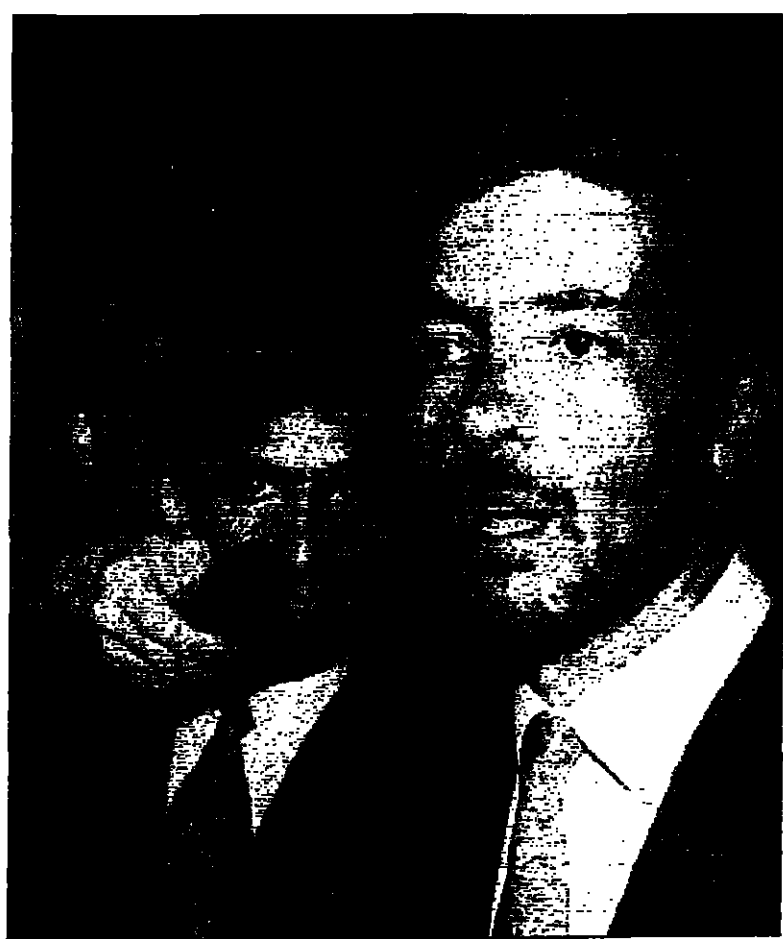
● **Without authority:** A director who enters into a commitment on a company's behalf without proper authority may well incur personal liability. Even signing a company cheque not carrying the company's correct name will render the director personally liable. Although generally a third party dealing with a company can assume that a transaction authorised in what seems to be a correct manner will bind the company, there is an exception where the third party is connected with the director concerned.

In addition, even if a company is

bound vis-à-vis a third party by the unauthorised act of a director, that director may be personally liable to the company.

● **Breach of duty:** A director will also be personally liable if he is in breach of his duties as a director — because there is a conflict of interests, for example. In essence, a director must not make a "secret profit", and must disclose any such conflict of interests to his fellow directors.

● **Directors' dealings:** The shareholders' consent is required for the purchase or sale of an asset between a company and one of its directors if the value of the transaction is at least £100,000, or, if less, 10 per cent of the company's net assets, with a minimum of £2,000. More onerous requirements apply to a director of a company whose shares are listed or quoted on the London Stock Exchange. There are also strict limitations on the extent to which companies can make loans or quasi-loans, as defined by statute, to a director. This is



Liability: Kevin Maxwell after bankruptcy order was made against him

“investment advertisements”. Second, in the case of any such transaction, directors, particularly those directly involved in managing the company, will be asked to give warranties or indemnities or both relating to the company's affairs to those providing or raising the capital.

Because of these potential liabilities, companies invariably have a detailed verification process for a prospectus or listing particulars, under which all factual statements are confirmed as true and all expressions of opinion are

confirmed to be honestly and reasonably held. No doubt those involved in the Robert Maxwell affair are even now looking carefully at the flotation document for Mirror Group Newspapers. Information on the appointment of independent trustees of the pension fund would be of special interest.

● **Keep it green:** There are also statutory obligations on a company where, to achieve greater compliance, the law says penalties for non-compliance may be personally exacted from individual directors.

This is particularly true on environmental matters, and it is a foolish board of directors that does not, in circumstances where the company's

activities make it appropriate, commission an environmental audit and thereafter adopt appropriate policies and designate a director to be responsible for them. This applies equally to safety matters.

● **Insolvency:** The key area where the personal liability of directors has come to the fore is that of insolvency. If a company carries on trading when it has no reasonable prospect of paying its debts as and when they fall due, then directors who authorise this conduct or negligently fail to prevent it may end up being made personally liable without limit for all or part of the company's debts.

● **The author is a partner with the City solicitors S.J. Berwin & Co.**

## Directors whose company is in difficulty must take professional advice

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## Firms proceed to the East with caution

Setting up in the former Soviet bloc is slowly paying

**T**he innocent euphoria that accompanied the opening-up of the central European economies has been followed among lawyers by a cautious re-evaluation of the medium-term prospects. The strike at the Polish Fiat factory and the political problems in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and the former Yugoslavia have emphasised the difficulties of the region.

Yet the mood among those already in Prague, Warsaw and Budapest is one of dogged determination. Theodore Goddard, for example, which is represented in all three capitals, said last week that its policy is still “full steam ahead”. Meanwhile Turner Kenneth Brown, which used to run its Prague practice from Brussels, is about to place a permanent English lawyer in the Czech capital.

Contrasted with British industry's caution about

central Europe, the enthusiasm with which London lawyers leapt in could almost be described as reckless. And it was not just the top four or five firms, such as Clifford

Chance, Lovell White Durrant, that plunged in. Nabarro Nathanson, Turner Kenneth Brown, Mackrell Turner Garrett and Amhurst Brown Colombotti are just a few of the firms that now have offices in central Europe.

The reasons for making this commitment are as much emotional as hard-headed. In many cases it is because firms were sucked in to do work for the new governments by appeals to their vanity. Half the firms in London seem to have been drafting new codes and conventions for ministries in Warsaw, Prague and Budapest.

Perhaps one of the most honest answers about investing in central Europe came from Derek Sendrove, a partner with Nabarro. His family left Poland in 1910,

but he still had a deep affection and curiosity for the place.

“As soon as I went to Poland in a personal capacity, I wanted to become involved professionally as well,” he says.

“Persuading my partners was not at all easy, and at first they would not agree to it. Then, however, we took on a large minerals project in Poland for a banking client, and that gave us the justification we needed to open an office.”

Nabarro has since thrived. From its original cramped office it is moving to spacious premises. A second London partner is about

“Greater confidence about political stability would permit progress”

to arrive, and a total of five expatriate lawyers are on the team, as well as locally recruited staff.

Mr Sendrove says: “To make money in central Europe you have to show commitment. You need offices and you need local lawyers.”

There is, however, a tight-rope to be walked on when “showing commitment”. Virtually every firm has stories of work done for the government for little or no fee. Some lawyers believe this is the admission ticket to a charmed circle of favoured Western practices. Turner Kenneth Brown, for example, has done extensive work on Czechoslovakia's association agreement with the European Community, but has shifted the emphasis of its work away from the government and towards

foreign investment. Lovell White Durrant has avoided government work almost entirely and follows a simple policy of going for profitable transactions. The result has been that the office paid for itself in the first year, and the firm now regards its return on its Czech investment as being “acceptable but not wonderful”.

A recent survey by Theodore Goddard revealed that if only there were greater confidence about political stability, real progress could be achieved.

Research shows that 22 per cent of *Business Week* magazine's global top 1,000 by size have targeted Eastern and central Europe as their top investment priority. Potentially this could mean up to \$20 billion of investment during the next five years. As a result, the long-term prospects for the central European economies are quite bright.

Theodore Goddard, with its American partner Dewey Ballantine, has set up offices in all three central European states, and runs them as a single territory backed by a “home team” from London. Two local

lawyers in Poland have now been brought in as a sign of the way the practice will develop. In the long term, it needs a strong local character.

Getting into bed with the right local lawyer, however, is not always easy. For Mackrell Turner Garrett, for example, it was difficult to find lawyers in Prague who were at all suitable. When they met their present partners Coniunctum, it was a great relief. The Coniunctum lawyers have a background of working for enterprises such as Skoda, or had been recent members of the legislation council.

Look cynically at central Europe and the view is bleak. However, it may be one of the last great frontiers for the law.

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### Our Salary Survey

The increase in earnings of in-house lawyers this year was the lowest of our survey has ever recorded - 3.2%. The only year we showed a similar low was in 1977, the time of the Labour Government's statutory wage controls, when earnings increased by 3.8%. Other recent surveys covering management remuneration have also shown the lowest increases for decades. Clearly, the recession is giving the government the result it is striving for: monetary deflation. It hurts, but as Mr Major would say, it is 'working'.

Not all in-house lawyers' earnings have kept to 3.2%. Those in their 30s have fared best, the largest rise being for Senior Legal Advisers in the 30-34 age group - from £82,068 to £95,520. There are a few instances, however, of earnings actually falling. Senior Legal Advisers aged 45 to 60 saw a drop from £94,752 to £91,421, and Legal Advisers aged 40-44 dropped from £65,065 to £63,742.

The highest paid in-house lawyers are the Senior Legal Advisers aged 40-44. Their average remuneration is £92,139. The top 10% of them earn £171,250; the bottom 10% earn £56,115.

Perhaps the most worrying trend to emerge from our survey is the decline of manufacturing industry in our 'pay-league'. Oil and banking top the league year after year, but manufacturing has fallen from 5th to 8th position. This must reflect the severe trauma that this sector of industry is going through. The very heart of our economy is in chronic decline, while the government celebrates one brilliant victory after another in its crusade against inflation.

Michael Chambers

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**Professional Indemnity: City**  
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Solr or barrister, 4 yrs' financial expce gained (preferably) in-house, to join high-profile legal dept of well-known financial group. Candidates shd enjoy working as part of management team.

**Commercial Property: North of England**  
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Recently qual solr to join UK head office of high-profile international co. You will be responsible for legal review of all significant contracts & for co. sec. wk for UK companies.

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Well-known firm seeks solr, min 5 yrs' relevant expce, to handle insolvency-related litigation.

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are not on the agenda, adding  
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and Mike Oxide, 47, Knight

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## Britons back athletics World Cup

# Christie declares intention to keep on running

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, IN HAVANA

HAVING captained Great Britain to second place in the World Cup here, Linford Christie reaffirmed his intention to compete through to the European championships and Commonwealth Games in 1994, when he will be 34. Whether the World Cup will still be running then remains open to conjecture.

Christie, winner of the 100 metres and second in the 200 metres, is a fan of the competition. "I would like to see it carry on," he said. Colin Jackson, who provided Britain with their only victory on the third and final day on Sunday, agreed. "It's a brilliant event and it should continue," he said.

In a vote of feet among Olympic champions and leaders of the rankings, Christie and Jackson were in the minority. Fewer than one-third came to support the event and it showed in the results.

In the men's events only Jackson, clocking 13.07sec for the 110 metres hurdles, and Jan Zelezný, with an 88.26-metre javelin throw, produced performances of the highest class. One quarter of the winning marks were inferior in comparison with those at the world junior championships held in the preceding week.

The argument against the World Cup is that it is one big competition too many, now the world championships are

every two years instead of every four. The winning time in every men's track event was slower than at the last World Cup four years ago and in only two field events were marks superior.

The absence, officially, of appearance or prize-money keeps the incentive low. Africa, never higher than fifth in five previous World Cups, won amid suggestions that team members were paid to compete. If there is a future for this competition, it will have to pay the athletes.

Britain finished second in the eight-team competition, despite fielding a squad that contained first-choice athletes in fewer than half the events. Behind Britain were four continents, Europe, the Americas, Asia and Oceania, and two countries, the United Team and the United States.

In the United Team and US squads, there were few names known outside those countries. The Americas, the host team, could not even muster an athlete to line up in two of the events. It was a World Cup not worthy of the name.

Starting the third day 12 points behind Africa, Britain were taken to within a point of the leaders with three events to go. Jackson and Christie were mainly responsible, though Brendan Reilly's third place in the high jump played its part. But then John Maycock laboured to seventh place in the

5,000 metres in a race won by the African, Fita Bayesa, and the British challenge died.

While Africa took 47 points from a possible 48 in track events, from 400 metres to 10,000 metres, the British runners at 5,000, 10,000 and steeplechase suffered in the humidity. This is where the match was lost.

Frank Dick, Britain's director of coaching, while praising his team's overall performance, noted that the endurance athletes were providing "an area for concern". "We must put together a humidity training camp as almost a fixed installation which our athletes can use during the winter to get the work in," he said.

Dick said that he had agreed to work with Elio Locatelli, Italy's chief coach, in the hope of clawing back some of the ground lost on the Africans.

"Why should we not do a series of block bookings at a corporate European venture, perhaps in somewhere like the Bahamas?" Dick said. He added that the idea had found favour with Ian Harner and Colin Walker, Britain's 10,000 metres and steeplechase representatives here.

Of Britain's overall performance, Dick said: "This year has been an outstandingly successful one for us, with the successes at the Olympics, the Under 23 European Cup, right down to the juniors at their world championships, and now here. This is Britain at its highest point ever but with all the promises and optimism of more to come."

Christie plans to lead the way until 1994 and has set his sights on completing a "grand slam" of 100 metres championships next year. He is in possession of the European, Commonwealth and Olympic titles and wants the world title in Stuttgart next summer. "That's the reason why I am hanging around," he said.



Happy man: Christie relaxes on the track after the 200 metres in Havana

## RESULTS FROM HAVANA

MEN: 200m: 1. R De Silva (Antigua), 20.56sec; 2. L Christie (GB), 20.72; 3. J Williams (USA), 20.75; 5,000m: 1. F Bayesa (Africa), 15min 41.1sec; 2. A Barnes (Antigua), 15.50; 3. J Farmer (USA), 14.02; 7. J Mayock (GB), 14.16; 4x400m relay: 1. Africa, 3:02.14; 2. Americas, 3:02.90; 3. Great Britain, 3:03.32; High jump: 1. Y Sargulenko (Ukraine), 2.23m; 2. J Solomayor (Antigua), 2.26; 3. B Reilly (GB), 2.26; Javelin: 1. J Zelezný (Czech), 88.26; 2. T Petranoff (Africa), 79.90; 3. V Savitskiy (Ukraine), 78.40; 5. M Hill (GB), 76.84. Final standings: 1. Africa, 115pts; 2. Great Britain, 103; 3. Europe, 99; 4.

Americas, 92; 5. United States, 90; 6. United Team, 84; 7. Asia, 60; 8. Oceania, 45.

WOMEN: 3,000m: 1. D Tulu (Africa), 9min 05.88sec; 2. V Chuvashova (Ukraine), 9:08.30; 3. M Keszeg (Europe), 9:08.03; 4x100m relay: 1. Asia, 43.83sec; 2. Europe, 44.02; 3. Africa, 44.21; Long jump: 1. H Dreschler (Czech), 1.67m; 2. E Simkhubwa (Ukraine), 1.65; 3. L Ninova (Europe), 1.65.

Final standings: 1. United Team, 102pts; 2. Europe, 94; 3. Americas, 79; 4. United States, 79; 5. Germany, 74; 6. Africa, 70; 7. Asia, 68; 8. Oceania, 40.

## CRICKET

## Durham sign Fowler

GRAEME Fowler, the former England and Lancashire opening batsman, has joined Durham on a two-year contract (Peter Ball writes).

Fowler, who played 21 Tests for England between 1982 and 1985, was released by Lancashire last month.

Durham's need for reinforcements is pressing, and the experienced Fowler will help bolster batting which appeared fragile last season once Dean Jones had departed.

Fowler has scored more

than 15,000 first-class runs, has an outstanding one-day record and is still an excellent fielder at the age of 35.

The opportunity to prove his point to Lancashire will come with the first two games next season. A four-day county championship match and a Sunday League game are both at Old Trafford.

Imran Khan, who has not played for Pakistan since captaining them to the World Cup last March, has confirmed that he is retiring from the game.

## POOLS FORECAST

MATCHES between teams beginning with the same letter are often a good source of draws. There are four such examples this week: Sheffield United v Southampton, Preston North End v Plymouth Argyle, Stockport County v Swansea City and Albion Rovers v Alloa Athletic. However, there are also sound logical reasons why all these games should end all square.

Only one point separates Sheffield United (twentieth) from Southampton (sixteenth) in the Premier League. Preston and Plymouth are seventeenth and sixteenth respectively in the second division and Stockport (second) are one point and one place higher than Swansea. Similarly,

there is little to choose between Albion and Alloa in the Scottish second division.

Derby County have already drawn three away matches this season. Be prepared for them to make it four, away to Cambridge United. Both sides are improving after bad starts.

Exeter City, second in the third division, is to be held at home for the first time by Shrewsbury Town, who are making rapid progress.

The Diadora League premier division fixture between Marlow and Carshalton Athletic looks an even better draw proposition. Both had fine away victories on Saturday, Marlow 5-2 at Harrow and Carshalton 1-0 at Basingstoke.

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## FOOTBALL

# Wright stays behind as Liverpool go to Cyprus

By Louise Taylor and Ian Ross

MARK Wright may not have boarded Liverpool's flight to Cyprus yesterday but the club captain still managed to be the centre of attention as Graeme Souness's side, prepared for the second leg of their European Cup Winners' Cup tie with Apollon Limassol tonight.

The England centre half was withdrawn from an already depleted Liverpool party — who are defending a 5-1 lead — at the eleventh hour. The official reason proffered by club officials was a "dead leg" sustained during the 3-2 defeat by Wimbledon on Saturday. But, perhaps significantly, Wright's withdrawal came 24 hours after newspaper reports suggested he would shortly be sold after failing to marshal a defence which has conceded 11 goals in its last three fixtures. Yet, according to a source close to Wright, no transfer is imminent and the player is genuinely injured.

If Wright's future at Anfield remains a mystery, Souness's selection options are painfully clear cut. With ten first-teamers injured and Pechenik, the Danish central defender, ineligible under UEFA rules, Souness's choice is so limited that it revolves around his usual reserve team.

The Liverpool manager, who has been given a vote of confidence by his directors, will fly to Cyprus separately from his players for personal reasons.

Cypriot police are not expecting trouble although

plane-loads of Juventus supporters will be on the island as well as Liverpool's. The Italian side plays Anorthosis Famagusta in Larnaca. "The supporters will be in different towns," a police spokesman pointed out.

The police were placed on a security alert only 24 hours after all scheduled local games in Cyprus were cancelled following violence at the end of a match between Omonia and Apollon on Saturday. The referee spent 48 hours in hospital after Omonia supporters had beaten him up following his award of an 89th-minute penalty to Apollon. Seven police were also hurt, one seriously, and four Omonia supporters were arrested.

Cardiff City travel to Austria where they face Admira Wacker with whom they drew 1-1 at Ninian Park two weeks ago. Cardiff will be bolstered by the inclusion of Robbie James, who was suspended for the three people killed on the 27-day, 10,000-mile event, but purely for commercial gain.

Worried that the 11 million inhabitants would spoil the VIP's view, the podium was moved to a high-security area well away from spectators. Not that they knew when, or even where, the rally would pass through town, for disinformation kept them off the streets. "I had been told I would see a lot of beautiful landscapes but above all I saw a lot of uniforms," one member of the Citroën team



Wheel of fortune: Lartigue, driving a Citroën ZX Rallye-Red, on his way to victory in the Paris-Moscow-Peking Rally

## Rallying to the cause of commercialism

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN PEKING

How one man's dreams turned sour when controversy clouded what had been billed as the last great motor sport adventure

WHAT was originally planned as a symbolic end to the inaugural Paris-Moscow-Peking Rally in Tiananmen Square on Saturday turned into a subdued ceremony in the nearby China World Hotel car park. The low-key finale was not out of respect for the three people killed on the 27-day, 10,000-mile event, but purely for commercial gain.

Worried that the 11 million inhabitants would spoil the VIP's view, the podium was moved to a high-security area well away from spectators. Not that they knew when, or even where, the rally would pass through town, for disinformation kept them off the streets. "I had been told I would see a lot of beautiful landscapes but above all I saw a lot of uniforms," one member of the Citroën team

said. Even more shameful were the security things which muscled members of the international media with incorrectly coloured passes from the finish area. A great opportunity to improve China's image by staging the Olympic Games in 2000 had been wasted in a most dramatic display of ineptitude.

The fact that the organisers, MAPS, had successfully run the event at a time when the world was in a state of crisis was a tribute to René Metge. His dream to stage the first West-East rally was shattered nine days before the start last year, with the attempted military coup in the then Soviet Union.

The Frenchman's determination was rewarded earlier

this month, when 153 competitors left Paris on what was billed as the last great motor sport adventure.

Less than half survived the tortuous journey through vast changes of topography and climate. The terrain changed quickly from arable land to desert, while one section through the Gobi desert dished up a sandstorm followed by torrential rain.

The professional teams stole the limelight, more for controversy off the stages than the performance on them. When Pierre Lartigue drove the victorious Citroën ZX Rallye-Red to the finish ramp, there was no applause from the opposition.

"He won because of the best navigation in Russia," Thierry Vairiot, Mitsubishi's chief engineer, said. "Why? Because they [Citroën] drive the piste beforehand." Somehow, Mitsubishi believe that Citroën was given the route before the rally started and went out to explore the roads. Citroën discovered the organisers' road book was littered with inaccuracies, and made their own.

Mitsubishi, whose cars came in second, third and fourth, have a number of theories how they received it, but cannot protest: MAPS is owned by the Mitsubishi Corporation, and any appeal would reflect badly on them.

One person who strongly rejects such accusations was the only British competitor, Fred Gallagher. Gallagher, who was navigating for Björn Waldegard, said the organisers' road book did not help. "The road book is a

disgrace," Gallagher, who lives in Edinburgh, said.

Citroën also deny such claims, preferring to reflect on the historical significance of how they have revived the *Croisière Jaune*. In 1931, a group of explorers left Beirut on the Citroën Central Asian Expedition, and after meeting up with a second team which had left Peking returned in unison to China.

Following the old Silk Road, much of the latter part of this year's rally followed in its footsteps, and like the *Croisière Jaune*, one wonders if its modern day ancestor will see the light of day again.

One suspects it will, but only if radical changes are introduced to ensure the true spirit of adventure is not overshadowed by controversy again.

FINAL STANDINGS: 1. P Lartigue (F), 2nd 48h 1400; 2. E Vairiot (S), 3rd 48h 1400; 4. J. Vairiot (S), 5th 48h 1400; 6. J. Vairiot (S), 7th 48h 1400; 8. J. Vairiot (S), 9th 48h 1400; 10. J. Vairiot (S), 11th 48h 1400; 12. J. Vairiot (S), 13th 48h 1400; 14. J. Vairiot (S), 15th 48h 1400; 16. J. Vairiot (S), 17th 48h 1400; 18. J. Vairiot (S), 19th 48h 1400; 20. J. Vairiot (S), 21st 48h 1400; 22. J. Vairiot (S), 23rd 48h 1400; 24. J. Vairiot (S), 25th 48h 1400; 26. J. Vairiot (S), 27th 48h 1400; 28. J. Vairiot (S), 29th 48h 1400; 30. J. Vairiot (S), 31st 48h 1400; 32. J. Vairiot (S), 33rd 48h 1400; 34. J. Vairiot (S), 35th 48h 1400; 36. J. Vairiot (S), 37th 48h 1400; 38. J. Vairiot (S), 39th 48h 1400; 40. J. Vairiot (S), 41st 48h 1400; 42. J. Vairiot (S), 43rd 48h 1400; 44. J. Vairiot (S), 45th 48h 1400; 46. J. Vairiot (S), 47th 48h 1400; 48. J. Vairiot (S), 49th 48h 1400; 50. J. Vairiot (S), 51st 48h 1400; 52. J. Vairiot (S), 53rd 48h 1400; 54. J. Vairiot (S), 55th 48h 1400; 56. J. 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## Ferguson's team faces vital game

# United may give Robson one more final fling

FROM DAVID MILLER IN MOSCOW

MANCHESTER United, for so long the financial kings of English football if not the playing force they used to be, face potential financial difficulty with an over-manned and overpaid playing staff. Declining attendances, even if offset by an increase in ticket prices, worsen the situation. It is, therefore, important that they survive this afternoon in the Uefa Cup here against Torpedo Moscow.

To do so, they will depend on Peter Schmeichel, of Denmark, probably the best goalkeeper in Europe, and may simultaneously gamble on one more last fling by the veteran Bryan Robson. Given Torpedo's collective skills and United's present uncertain League form, the Russians

said to be the youngest team in European competition, may have the stronger controlling influence on a brittle outcome. In a second leg finely balanced after a goalless draw at Old Trafford, United have a marginal advantage from the added value of any away goal; consequently Torpedo will, as Alex Ferguson expects, have to be careful defensively. Another goalless draw is possible, but Ferguson has not had his squad practising penalties. "That wouldn't be the right input, it would encourage the players to think 'he doesn't fancy us,'" Ferguson said.

Were everyone fit, the critical choice would concern that of Robson or Phelan as replacement for Darren Ferguson in central midfield

alongside Ince. But Martin, the right back, has a stomach virus and is doubtful; the replacement will be Parker, who has yet to play a first-team match this season, or Phelan. If it is Phelan, then Robson would be asked to play a defensive midfield role.

"It's difficult to talk to him about it, because he's so determined, and I have the feeling he wants to play," Ferguson said. "If I ask him if he's ready [following Saturday's satisfactory reserve match] he'll tell me he is, and I'll probably wait until the morning to discuss it with him." Robson's last appearance was against Liverpool in April when United surrendered any remaining hope of the League title.

On his present fitness, Ferguson thinks Robson can give the team between 45 minutes and an hour, perhaps enough to help dissolve Torpedo's momentum and motivation, being the less experienced team. As there appears to be no space for Webb, who then, one wonders, will create the goals?

With Schmeichel, Hughes and McClair, the three permitted foreigners, there is no room either for Kanchelskis, so Wallace will again be on the opposite flank, this time with Giggis. While Ferguson must be glad of the available permutations today, the surfeit of expensive players such as Webb and Wallace — who cannot find regular places but are reluctant to move and thereby accept an inevitable drop in wages — presents the club with a long-term financial dilemma.

The indisputable individual strength in the team is Schmeichel, so outstanding in the European championship, unbeaten 26 times last season and now on six occasions this season. "He has presence, an aura," Ferguson reflected. "We'll hope to keep it tight and let Torpedo do the worrying. We'll be trying to hold on to the ball."

That is an ambitious hope, for Torpedo have showed an ability to retain possession. They will still be without the talented Tishkov, who has controversially been receiving treatment from Sheffield Wednesday, who would like to buy him. Torpedo may include Pozomov who scored twice in a 3-2 victory on Saturday, but the man United must fear is the elusive Talalayev at centre forward.



Saving grace: United bank on Schmeichel to keep them in European competition

## Ferguson vows to lose misfit tag

IAN Ferguson, the Rangers midfielder player, has promised to use his tenth European match to help him lose the tag of million-pound misfit. Ferguson, 25, has become the driving force in the Ibrox side this season yet still believes he has to justify his move from St Mirren four years ago. He could go a long way towards doing that by ensuring Rangers overcome Lyngby tomorrow to reach the second round of the European Cup. "People keep writing about me as the £1 million flop," Ferguson said. "I would love to justify the money Rangers paid for me and get rid of this tag. That means staying in the team and winning some honours at the end of the season."

Ferguson has made only 20 league appearances in the past two seasons because of a succession of injuries, including a hernia operation. But his outstanding recent form means he will make his ninth successive start in Copenhagen as Rangers defend a 2-0 first leg lead. Airdrieonians travel to Czechoslovakia, trailing Sparta Prague 1-0 in the Cup Winners' Cup, with injury problems to resolve before the second leg. John Martin, their goalkeeper, and Jimmy Sandison, the captain, are receiving treatment. Alex MacDonald, the Airdrie manager, said: "Jimmy has needed an icepack on a leg knock while John has strained his neck. At the moment, we are monitoring their progress." Phil Burns, the reserve goalkeeper, is on stand-by and, if Sandison is ruled out, Gus Caesar could return. Liam Brady, the Celtic manager, yesterday blamed a "basic lack of professionalism" for his team's run of poor results. He conceded that it would require a "special performance" to overturn a 2-0 deficit against Cologne in their Uefa Cup first round second leg in Glasgow.

Celtic have suffered four defeats in their last five games, including the reverse in Germany a fortnight ago, and Brady said: "There has been a basic lack of professionalism and we've been punished." "In general play, there hasn't been too much to gripe about but, at certain times, we've been let down. The supporters were happy with what they saw for 80 minutes or so against Partick Thistle on Saturday then we shot ourselves in the foot." "We lost a goal from a corner against Aberdeen and Partick's winner also came from a corner. The players must start making the right decision at the right time." "More than 50 per cent of the goals we've lost recently have been from set-pieces," he said. "It's not as if we have lost to better teams and that's what makes things even more galling. If we lose to a better side, I'm prepared to hold up my hands and admit it."

"Saturday was another bad defeat but it doesn't alter my thinking that we can beat Cologne. If we play to our capabilities, I still feel we can do it, although it will take a special performance." "Two weeks ago, things were going fine and, as quickly as they turned bad, they can turn good again." Brady's toughest decision tomorrow will be to pick three "foreigners" from a group of five non-Scots. An injury to the Pole, Dariusz Wondolczyk, is likely to reduce the number to four and Pat Bonner, the Ireland goalkeeper, may make way for Gordon Marshall. Heart of Midlothian, Scotland's other Uefa Cup representatives, have injury worries for their second leg against Slavia Prague at Tynecastle. Hearts hope to overturn a 1-0 deficit but John Robertson, their leading scorer, is still struggling to shake off a hamstring problem and Gary Mackay is also doubtful.

## Lazio allay injury fears

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

LAZIO, the Italian football club, yesterday set out to calm fears that Paul Gascoigne had suffered a setback in his efforts to recover from the knee injury that had threatened his career. The club's manager, Dino Zoff, doctor and even the player himself said that although Gascoigne was substituted on his league debut in Rome on Sunday after being struck on the knee, the problem was only a minor one.

For a while, it had seemed Gascoigne's return after 18 months on the sidelines would be short-lived. Just before half-time in Lazio's game with Genoa, a tackle from Mario Bortolazzi, the Genoa midfielder, left the Englishman hobbling badly and, when he failed to reappear for the second half, it was thought he may have aggravated the ligament injury in his right knee sustained in the 1991 FA Cup final.

Yesterday, however, the Lazio club doctor, Claudio Bartolini, said that Gascoigne had merely suffered bruising to the knee on the sciatic nerve, which had caused a dead leg. "It has been a good test on his knee and it has come through," he said. "We need 24 hours to evaluate the situation properly. This kind of injury on a normal knee can provide problems for up to a week. He didn't ask to come off. I said it was better for him not to go back on, but I didn't think it was a big problem."

Gascoigne, clearly relieved, said: "What I needed was something like this on my knee and thank God everything is okay. It is nothing, but I came off for cautious reasons, just in case. Now it feels okay."

Despite the injury, Zoff is considering Gascoigne for Lazio's fixture against Parma next Sunday. "I have to see what Paul's condition is before I make a decision," he said yesterday. "I wasn't too worried about his big accident. He would have played for a few minutes more."

Although Zoff was under pressure from the club president, Sergio Cragnotti, to include his English international, he was coming under increasing criticism for playing Gascoigne at all yesterday. *La Gazzetta dello Sport*, the national sports paper, said: "Lazio have learned a lesson. Gascoigne is a long way off and the storm is gathering. If there was one person who might have known that the Englishman was still unfit and who had made that absolutely clear after Wednesday's friendly with Tottenham, that one person was Zoff."

## Knighton's crusade claims first victim

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

AIDAN McCaffery became the first manager in the Football League to be dismissed this season when he parted company with Carlisle United yesterday. He was asked to clear his desk less than a week after the Cumbrian club had held Norwich City to a 2-2 draw at Brunton Park in the Coca-Cola Cup.

League results had not gone so well — Carlisle are seventeenth in the third division — but are an improvement on last season, when United finished at the foot of the fourth division.

Since then Michael Knighton, who once tried to buy Manchester United, has taken control of the club. It was apparent from the outset that he and McCaffery, 35, who played as a defender with Newcastle United and Bristol Rovers, would not see eye to eye.

Knighton has a ten-year plan for Carlisle which involves them reaching the Premier League and qualifying for Europe, McCaffery said: "I told Knighton his policies were wrong the first day I met

him. A club that spends no money on players is not likely to reach the Premier League."

Knighton intends to appoint a temporary player-coach while he searches for a permanent successor to McCaffery. David McCreery, the former Manchester United and Northern Ireland midfielder player, may fill that role.

There is no guarantee of any great job security at Brunton Park. Knighton said yesterday: "Our 2-0 defeat at home to Southport United was unacceptable. The players let the manager down and have got to know I am not prepared to tolerate that sort of performance. I cannot go out and sack every player but I can demonstrate that I am a man who means business. It is up to me to find a replacement and that replacement will be put under pressure."

"This football club has got to get out of this division and out of the next one and the next one until it is in the Premier League and I do not know how many managers that is going to take."

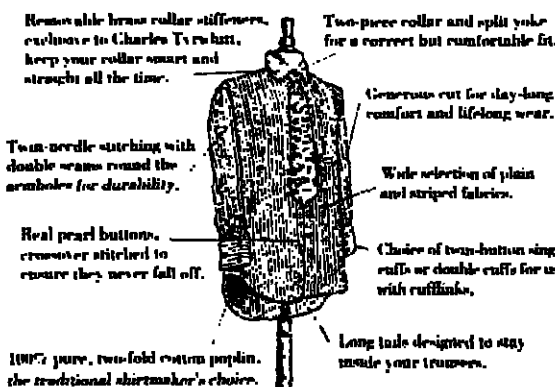
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## Brooke must seize chance to provide needed leadership

BY JOHN GOODBODY

IN LESS than six months as secretary of state in the department of national heritage, David Mellor did not have time to address, let alone answer, the central questions of British sport. His successor, Peter Brooke, must now decide whether the government is going to provide the necessary leadership, or whether we are going to continue with a lack of focus, with a multiplicity of organisations and with finance, including tax-payers' money, being badly directed.

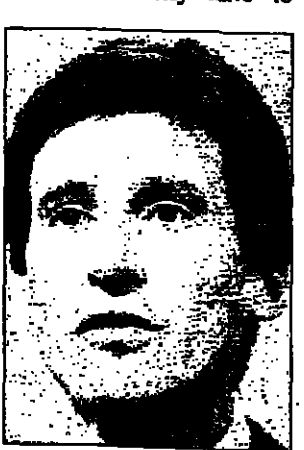
Peter Lawson, the secretary of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, which represents the national governing bodies, said yesterday that he wanted the government to have a more active role in administration. Lawson described the appointment of Brooke as "an inspired choice" adding that he has the "wisdom and gravitas" to look again at the government's disastrous *Review of Sport*, published by Robert Atkins, the former minister for sport.

Since Colin Moynihan's era, the post has drifted into a hand-shaking exercise, with ministers preferring to watch events and attend functions rather than to give the intelligent leadership for which British sport craves.

Robert Key, Brooke's under-secretary of state, stressed recently that good management practice and fi-

nancial controls should not be restricted to private companies. They should also embrace the public sector. However, he has yet to grasp how the lack of government control has meant that a significant problem is less shortage of money than making certain the money is used effectively. Lawson also said that he hoped that Brooke and Key would encourage the appointment to the department of Sebastian Coe, despite the former Olympic champion's wish to broaden his political interests and also despite any government's reluctance to elevate to even junior minister someone who has been an MP for fewer than six months.

However, at the moment, Brooke and Key have to



Coe should be used

handle the media, the arts, tourism and heritage, as well as sport. Although sport comes having a secretary of state championing its cause in cabinet, Lawson said that sport does need a junior minister with specific responsibility. "This would be an excellent opportunity for Coe to cut his teeth in ministerial work," he said. "It would be of enormous help both in the promotion of the national lottery and also Manchester's Olympic bid, to which the government has given such commitment."

"Who is better equipped to help the government's determination to get the Games than Coe?" More than any other government minister, except possibly John Major, Coe is immediately recognisable to every International Olympic Committee (IOC) member. Coe led the unsuccessful London bid to stage the 2000 Games, for which the IOC will vote in September 1993, and therefore might be seen as still linked with the capital.

However, Coe has never been exclusively identified with London, because he also supported Birmingham's bid for the 1992 Games at the IOC meeting in Lausanne in 1986. The Games would be Britain's Games, whichever city staged them. And nobody knows the Olympic arena better than Coe.

## Denison throws in towel

TERRY Denison has resigned as head coach to the British swimming team less than two months after 80 per cent of the squad failed to improve their times at the Barcelona Olympics (Craig Lord writes). "I accept responsibility for what went wrong," Denison said yesterday, although he urged others, including the swimmers, to stand up and be counted. The head coach's job, and those of his assistants, will be advertised for the first time in a shake-up of the organisation of the sport. Some coaches had complained privately about the fact that among Denison's assistants in Barcelona were Jim Park and Bob Pay, neither of whom had placed swimmers in finals at the Olympic trials.

After a six-hour meeting of coaches and swimmers on Sunday, Denison said: "I've made no secret of the fact that I'm gutted about Barcelona. We still don't have any concrete answers as to what went wrong. I feel, however, that the discussion that has gone on since has provided us with an opportunity to change the shape of British swimming for the good."

Barry Prime, coach at Birmingham to Nick Gillingham, and Dave Haller, of the City of Cardiff club, who was head coach during the successful 1970s, are among those tipped to take over.

## Prost calls for look at code of conduct

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ALAIN Prost, alarmed at Riccardo Patrese's narrow escape in the Portuguese grand prix on Sunday and Ayrton Senna's threatening attitude, has appealed to motor racing's governing body to enforce the drivers' unwritten code of conduct.

"In the last few seasons, I have been disappointed by the lax attitude of drivers in what is still a highly dangerous sport," Prost said yesterday. "I'm not for repression as such but some cases are criminal."

"It is up to the federation to apply the rules, to warn or penalise guilty drivers. With the economic interests now at stake, we have got to make sure that everyone respects the spirit of fair play."

Prost, who takes Nigel Mansell's place at Williams next year, claimed that Gerhard Berger, the Austrian driver, was to blame for the crash at Estoril on Sunday that could have cost Patrese his life.

He said Berger should have signalled he was going to pull into the pits before braking hard. "It's part of the unwritten code that seems to have been forgotten."

Patrese said he thought he would be killed when his Williams clipped the back of Berger's McLaren and somersaulted into the air.

Senna, angry at being out-maneuvred by Prost in getting the drive at Williams, accused the Frenchman of being a coward and promised all-out war next year. "This is an astonishing thing to say and I hope the governing body takes note," Prost said.

Prost and the Brazilian had an acrimonious partnership at McLaren that carried over when the Frenchman joined Ferrari. Senna admitted he had made no attempt to avoid Prost in a crash in the Japanese grand prix two years ago.

Martin Brundle is still keeping his fingers crossed that he will get the chance to emulate Nigel Mansell's success with Williams.

He flew home on Sunday night, after finishing fourth at Estoril, knowing his ambitions to be Britain's leading driver are finely balanced.

The Williams team's confirmation of Prost to lead them in 1993 has left Brundle and Patrese fighting over the No. 2 spot alongside the Frenchman. Brundle did his chances a power of good with his seventh successive points-scoring finish and his ninth in ten races.

After Mansell, it made Brundle the most consistent driver in Formula One since May while Patrese has scored points in only four of the last eight races.

"Let's just wait and see," he said. "Anything can happen in this game. We had been promised decisions before and we are still waiting for them. I'm just going to sit tight and wait for it."





MODERN TIMES p5  
Should donor  
insemination  
be secret from  
the child?

# LIFE & TIMES

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 29 1992

FOCUS p7,8,9

Freshers  
week: into a  
brave new  
world



## Brains behind the bricks

Anthony Hunt is the engineer behind many a great vision

Behind every great British architect there is a great British engineer. Anthony Hunt's battle honours will soon rival those of Peter Rice, the engineer who was awarded this year's royal gold medal by the RIBA.

Mr Hunt has worked with all the big names: Sir Norman Foster at the Sainsbury centre in Norwich; Sir Richard Rogers at the Iznos microchip centre in Wales; Michael Hopkins at the Schlumberger factory outside Cambridge; Eddard Evans and David Skelton at the Truro court-house and most recently with Gordon Benson and Alan Forsyth on their winning entry for the National Museum of Scotland competition.

Right now he is in the public eye with the bright blue steel tube structure of the Channel terminus nearing completion at Waterloo, where he has been working with Nicholas Grimshaw.

Mr Hunt is very much at the centre of the new minimalism. He describes this as "using the minimum number of parts to do the maximum number of jobs — in a structural sense".

Stainless steel is one of his favourite materials and on his



Man of steel: Anthony Hunt

office table are a series of stainless steel castings for Waterloo Station. "They are not polished up, that's why they look like grey iron. People think of stainless steel as being shiny like cutlery, but you can achieve many degrees of finish from matt to silver."

Glass, says Mr Hunt is still the magic material. In Paris he is working on what could be the last of Mitterrand's grand projects, CCIP, an international conference centre, next to the Eiffel tower. "We got the job with a French architect two years ago. It's three great glass boxes, each 100 metres long, 50 wide and 28 high."

He set up practice on his own, when he was just 30, though he has now teamed up with one of Britain's biggest architectural practices, YRM, who are responsible for most of Gatwick airport.

It is right he says to talk of a renaissance of British engineering, bringing structural design to a pitch of adventurousness, hardly seen since the age of Brunel, Stephenson and Telford. At the moment Britain is ahead of both Japan and the United States, he believes. All he regrets is that lack of vision in Britain led ministers to reject the bow-shaped bridge proposed by the Spaniard Santiago Calatrava, which would have spanned the new east Thames crossing in one giant leap.

MARCUS BINNEY

## Carry On into a new world

A fresh outlook on a well-loved routine brings some familiar characters back to the silver screen.

Barry Turner on a renovated British institution

Let's get one thing straight. *Carry On* *Admiral* is not one of the *Carry On* series made at Pinewood under the Peter Rogers and Gerald Thomas banner. Their first was *Carry On Sergeant* made in 1958 with Bob Monkhouse in the lead. *Carry On Admiral* was a year earlier and featured Wilfrid Hyde White who went on to play the Colonel in *Carry On Nurse* (the second Rogers-Thomas effort) and ended up with a daffodil in his bottom.

It is important to know these details. Any time now *Carry On* will be a specialist subject on *Mastermind*. Why not? It is a British institution to rank with the Queen Mother, one of the few success stories of British cinema and the longest succession of films to be made by recognisably the same small group of people. There are aficionados galore queuing up to sit under the spotlight.

So what do you say when Magnus Magnusson asks, as he surely must, how many *Carry Ons* have been made by Rogers and Thomas? The answer is 29, including the latest, *Carry On Columbus* which will be at your local cinema from Friday. *Carry On Columbus* is a bit of an oddball. It is fourteen years since its predecessor *Carry On Emmanuelle* bombed at the box office. The received wisdom then was that *Carry On* had had its day. The jokes, most of which had a history going back to Marie Lloyd, were beginning to show their age.

So too were the actors. One by one, stalwarts of the *Carry On* repertory fell off the perch. Sid James, he of the cement mixer voice, was the first to go. He died in 1976 with 19 *Carry Ons* to his credit. Hattie Jacques (14 appearances) went in 1980 followed by the two camp comedians, Kenneth Williams and Charles Hawtrey who scored 25 and 23 respectively. *Carry On* survived for nostalgia buffs in countless television repeats and in the video shops, an ever renewable source of income for the Rogers-Thomas partnership and irritation for their actors who had been paid a modest flat fee for their services.

Meanwhile, the new age of alternative comedy was upon us. Its exponents were rough, tough and pleased to shock. If *Carry On* was nude and wink, alternative comedy was a punch in the gut. After Comic Strip and Comedy Store who in their right mind would try to put new life into *Carry On*? Enter John Goldstone. This 49-year-old producer does not come across as the sort of man to throw away £2 million, which is what it has cost to make *Carry On Columbus*. He knows what works in comedy, having put together the money for the Monty Python films.

The woman at the post office looked hard at the form I had completed and passed over the counter. Her pen hovered. "What is... that?" she said.

I peevish. "What do you think it is?" She shook her head and pursed her lips. "Could be anything," she said. She made a guess: "H?"

"No." "It's not a W," she said. "Is it?" "No."

"I give up." "It's an M. Obviously."

"Is it really?" she said, as if I'd told her that it was an Icelandic rune. She looked again. "You don't half write funny, don't you?" I had an advantage over her. I knew that it had to be an M because it was the first letter of the name of the village where I live and I wouldn't have forgotten that in the five minutes since I completed the form. Otherwise I might have been as fogged as she was. My handwriting is so bad that I often have to guess at its meaning when I try to read what I have written.

What, for instance, is the meaning of this note in my diary under

not to mention Terry Gilliam's *Jabberwocky* and Terry Jones' *Erik the Viking*. Two years ago he won backing from 20th Century Fox to set up The Comedy House. The first idea was to sell British comedy talent into America. "There was a limit to that," he says. "We reshot Rowan Atkinson's *Mr Bean* series and Ben Elton was in demand as a writer. But there are not many British performers who can adapt to the American market."

Then it occurred to Goldstone that *Carry On* might be due for a comeback. "Comedy goes in cycles. *Carry On* humour is back in fashion. You can see it on television: the kind of shows that are working are a return to a more traditional kind of comedy. Alternative comedy has become too obstructive, too inward looking."

It has to be said that *Carry On Columbus* is timely. The anniversary

'Carry On humour is back in fashion.

Alternative comedy has become too inward looking'

ry brouhaha gives the subject a topical appeal and with two heavyweight Columbus movies (Marlon Brando is in one, Gérard Depardieu plays Columbus in the other), *Carry On* is able to do what *Carry On* has always done best — which is to take the mickey out of pomposity. Remember *Carry On Cleo*? It had more entertainment value and was certainly more enduring than the Burton-Taylor farraço, if only for the anguished cry from Kenneth Williams as Caesar — "Infamy, Infamy. They've all got it in for me". Still, a few fondly remembered lines do not a new movie make. Goldstone had to start with a critical decision. Should he go unashamedly for nostalgia, reviving what was left of the original *Carry On* team or strike out for new characters and a younger generation of artists. In the end he did a bit of both. The old guard was led by Gerald Thomas who at 72 was signed up to direct *Carry On Columbus* in the same mechanical style as he had directed all the other *Carry Ons*.

"He was the obvious choice. No one knows *Carry On* as well as he. Anyway, there are few enough comedy directors in this country. In television, they're used to half an hour format. They can't sustain a whole movie," Goldstone says.

The critics have not been kind to Thomas but his worst enemy would have to credit him with the rare talent of working to a modest budget. He sticks to schedule come what may and if, sometimes, the joints show, well, what the hell? That's all part of the end of the pier tradition from which *Carry On* takes its best material.

With Thomas as director, it was only natural to go for another old stager as scriptwriter. Dave Freeman is a master of the pun and double entendre, who learned his trade in the 1940s writing for the best of the stand-up comics. Freeman was the writer for *Carry On Behind* in 1975 and for several of the television spin-offs such as *Carry On Christmas* (Pause for another *Mastermind* question. How many *Carry Ons* were made specifically for television? Answer 39. And, for a bonus, there were two stage shows, *Carry On London* and *Carry On Laughing* in 1973 and 1976.)

For *Carry On Columbus*, Freeman had overcome the problem that sooner or later afflicts any comedy writer. "I couldn't think of a single fact about Columbus that was in the least bit funny."

Do you need facts for a *Carry On*? "Well, you've got to start somewhere." He read some books and watched a boring film about Columbus starring Frederick March. "Then I found out that Columbus took along an interpreter. He was a Jew who thought Arabic and Chinese were the same language. Now that's funny." So was born Moishe the Navigator, discoverer of a route to the West Indies. It was the start of the script and of a sizeable role for Bernard Cribbens, veteran of two early *Carry Ons*.

In the old days, the part of Columbus, known in *Carry On* parlance as Chris, would have inevitably gone to Sid James, who, playing every role as a red-neck con-artist, might have got close to the real man. This time Jim Dale takes centre screen. The nice dim lad of ten *Carry Ons*, he has now grown to lined maturity, better looking than Sid James, though the same could be said of the Santa Maria's masthead. The new Jim Dale has discovered sex and eventually gets his woman, even if the bed does collapse under him. That would never have happened to Sid who spent all his *Carry Ons* in a frenzy of sexual frustration. Off the set was another matter, as Barbara Windsor confesses in her biography.

And talking of Barbara Windsor, where is she? Not in *Carry On Columbus*, that's for sure. There are several other unexpected absences — Bernard Bresslaw, Joan Sims, Kenneth Connor, Terry Scott. All apparently were offered



Navigating charted waters: Bernard Cribbens (left) and Julian Clary in *Carry On Columbus*

small roles but were otherwise engaged, though Connor may have spoken for all of them when he said that he wanted to be remembered as a *Carry On* principal, not a bit-part player.

In their place come the latest generation of comics. Rik Mayall, Nigel Planer, Alexei Sayle, Peter Richardson and Keith Allen. Instead of Kenneth Williams preening and strutting we have the languid mien of Julian Clary.

All the newcomers are fans of *Carry On* even if the politically motivated humour which made them famous is not in the music hall tradition. A self-confessed non-admirer, Robbie Coltrane, put himself out of the running to play Columbus. But there is a curiosity. While the young ones claim to have been much influenced by *Carry On*, they are plodders when it comes to handling the material for real. It is the oldies, including those

such as Maureen Lipman, who have never played *Carry On* before, who steal the biggest laughs. Thrusting themselves into the spirit of the farce, they ham it up like mad and Thomas knows enough to let them get away with it.

But then, as Don Henderson, who plays a particularly unsavoury bosun, explains: "In this sort of film you can do anything. If you're caught wearing a wrist watch, you can say you invented it on the voyage."

The Comic Strip graduates do not see it that way. For the most part they are uncomfortably restrained. Mayall and Planer deliver their lines like the speaking clock. And are about as interesting, Clary, a clever and original comedian, relishes Freeman's double entendres. But for the most part he saunters through the film absent-

minently as if he has wandered in from another film.

Maybe the problem is that while the newcomers are comics, their elders are comic actors. Straddling the two crafts is Harold Berens, at 89 the undisputed father of the cast and a one-time stand-up comic who could top the bill at the Holborn Empire. He would certainly be able to answer this final *Mastermind* question:

In which *Carry On* did these exchanges take place?

Man: I dreamt of you last night.

Girl: Did you?

Man: No, you wouldn't let me.

And: Girl: Do you want to get me into trouble?

Man: What time are you off duty?

The first was from *Carry On Nurse*. The second is not *Carry On* at all. It is part of Max Miller's routine, circa 1940. Plus ça change.

## Take it as read that I wrote it

MID LIFE: Neil Lyndon on the joining up of letters

Tuesday, May 12 which appears to say "Tithes in Rhapsoody"? A prayer for the day? A song in the tax collector's heart? It had me stumped for a full 30 seconds until I made it out to be "Tithes in Chap2" — a reminder to check some references in the second chapter of a book I was completing. I ply my executors if they have to make sense of my estate from my hand-written records: they'll be in Chancery until their own wills fall due for scrutiny.

Most of the letters I write begin "You do know, don't you, that I'm trying to do you a favour by typing this letter rather than the discourse of writing it by hand?" My own son begs me not to send him hand-written letters or cards because the effort of deciphering them eats into his Segga-time. He tells me that I ought to join him in his school class. Last time we had lunch

together, he made me copy the letters of the alphabet onto a paper napkin and, studying the results, said I wasn't ready to join them up.

The evidence does not exist to support this claim but I am fairly confident that my handwriting was as good as his when I was nine. It must have been about that time when I, perverse little gill, decided that I would slope it backwards just because everybody else was doing what the teacher told them to do and sloping theirs forwards. Up to the age of 16, there was nothing wrong with the shape of my words except that they appeared to be backing towards their meanings. The gathered



weight of three years of note-taking in the sixth form and three years at university, followed by 20 years of journalism have been too much for my hand, which has collapsed from calligraphy into a private code, the key to which I frequently mislay. In the 1980s I had a secretary who had to spend so much time decoding the enigma of my notes that she got better at it than I was myself.

"What does that say?" I would ask. "I've been wondering about that," she would murmur, "and I'm pretty sure I've cracked it."

The trouble with our education system is not that they don't teach you how to write (they do) but they don't teach you how to make notes. The senior teachers at my school acted as if we had all spent the summer at secretarial school between taking O levels and entering the sixth form and suddenly, magically, we could be expected to take notes on their lessons at the speed of their thoughts.

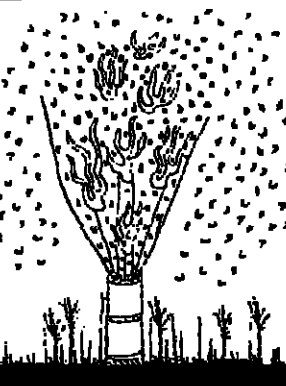
They didn't even teach you how to hold a pen so that it could travel over a thousand inches of paper at 50 words a second. I adapted my grip so that it became a hunched clench. A school-friend, watching me at work, said "You hold your pen like a butcher's apprentice with a hook in his hand."

My grip wasn't just ugly and inefficient: it also left a physical mark. Thirty years of pushing pens left me with a permanent black blister under the skin of my index finger. It's not much of an industrial injury compared with a broken back or bronchitis but maybe I am the only person in the world who might claim to have contracted a repetitive strain injury from a pen?

That little wen is a mark of a vanished age. For most of my working day, I've got about as much use for a pen as an accounts clerk has for an abacus. The word processor came to save my finger from withering and my words from the extinction of indecipherability. I use the machine for everything, even love letters.

About 30 years ago, Katharine Whitehorn said that anybody who would use a typewriter to compose a poem must be short of a hexameter in the muse and soul department. What would she think of somebody who found, as I do, that the word processor is perfect for poems: you can change any word or line as many times as you want, saving all the versions if you choose and never have to scratch your head over an old line. The Post Office isn't in the poetry market, however. They want unequivocal Ms and no missing. They might have a chance if I could get their forms on disc.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE  
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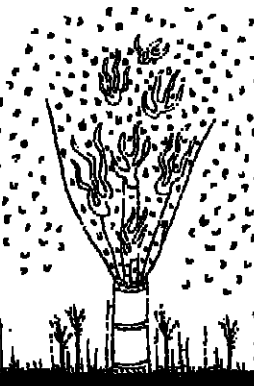


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Choreographer Lawrence Evans,  
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REVIEWS TOMORROW  
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AT 7.15  
BOX OFFICE  
FIRST CALL  
NEEDS  
1992

are not on the agenda, adding

bell, 48, Greg Morgan, 47, and Mike Oxide, 47, Knight

CAROL LEONARD

itors. Corner roundly declared that Parliament and government shared responsibility

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**ESPAÑA:** In the first of two concerts to commemorate the Columbus anniversary, the Dufay Collective and the Main Ensemble join forces for an intriguing measure of Spanish music ancient and modern (the latter represented by works by Falla and Roberto Gerhard). Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.45pm.

**IL TRIOVATORE:** Scottish Opera's new production, by Mark Bennett, continues the company's policy of assembling impressive international casts. Azucena (Ludmila Kani), Manrico (Rado Radenkovic) and the Count di Luna (Maurice Redden) are all from the Bolshoi. Lenora is the winner of the 1991 Cardiff Singer of the World competition, Lisa Garsen. Richard Armstrong conducts. Theatre Royal, Hoxton Street, Glasgow G4 0JH 92000, 7.15pm.

**THE POWER OF MISTERY:** Well balanced English National Opera production of Verdi's compelling opera under the baton of the estimable Mark Elder. Josephine Barlow takes command of the most demanding of all Verdi's dramatic soprano roles, that of Leonora. Edmund Burkitt, as her lover, Don Alvaro, and John Copley, as Don Rodrigo, are both excellent. Leonora's costume is set against a brightly coloured abstract set. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-936 3161), tonight, 7pm.

**THE PATTERNS:** Drawing on traditional forms of dance, music, carnival and storytelling, the de Winton traces the African-Caribbean-British cultural journey back to its African roots through slavery, liberation and migration. "The Patterns has worked extensively in the performing and visual arts field with groups such as Adrenaline and African Ensemble. This is his first solo work created in consultation with African dance expert Peter Abdejo. ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (071-930 0451), tonight, 8pm.

## TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kari Knight

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## THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

House full, returns only  
Some seats available  
Seats at all prices

**AT THE ALCHEMIST:** David Bradley and Jonathan Hyde re-enact the town in Sam Mendes' very funny production of J.K. Rowling's satire. Barbican, St. John's Lane, London EC2 (071-938 8891), tonight, 8pm, 10pm, 12.15pm. 15mins. Full performances.

**ANGELS IN AMERICA:** Thrilling performances in Tony Kushner's fascinating state-of-the-union drama about plague, politics and everything National (Corsetto), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252), tonight, 7.30pm, 10.15pm, 12.15pm.

**COLQUHOUN AND MACRYDIE:** Sometimes witty but hollow study of two Pitt-Rivers painters who drank heavily and are now forgotten. Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm, 12.15pm.

**DEATH AND THE MAIDEN:** And Dordman's scorching psychological drama on the longing for revenge. Fenice, Dordman, St. John's Lane, London EC2 (071-938 8891), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm, 12.15pm.

**FROM A JACK TO A KING:** Witty and stylish version of Macbeth's climb to the top, set in the world of rock bands and packed with Setes songs. Ambassadors, West Street, London WC2 (071-836 6111), Mon-Thurs, 8.30pm, 12.15pm.

**GAMBLERS:** Cleg Marshaw, Mark Rylands, Phil Dwyer, psychological drama of a gambler's fall from grace. National (Corsetto), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm, 12.15pm.

**GRAND HOTEL:** Musical barley song. Berlin in the Twenties. Sentimental, American, entertaining. Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (071-960 9562), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm, 12.15pm.

**HAMILTON:** Alan Rickman in fascinating voice dominates a generally lively production. Riverside Studios, Croy Road, W6 (071-748 3541), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm (15mins. Sold out for complete run).

**AN INSPECTOR CALLS:** Stephen Daldry's astoundingly powerful resurrection of Pinter's drama of social responsibility. National (Jyrtel), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm, 12.15pm.

## DANCE

### Enjoyable humbug with all the festive trimmings

A Christmas Carol Royal, Bath

IF SHAW and Wodehouse are fair game for musicals, why not Dickens for ballet? Which thought indicates how best to regard Northern Ballet Theatre's latest production, *A Christmas Carol*, sponsored by Digital and BT and premiered at Bath on Saturday: a balletic entertainment rather than high art.

There is actually quite a lot of singing in it, carols and other traditional songs, many of them sung by the dancers, others recorded by the Chorus of Wakefield Cathedral. Even Tiny Tim (played by local schoolchildren during the tour: William Cartwright-Hignett at the premiere) has a solo. "How far is it to Bethlehem?" Carl Davis uses the traditional tunes as the basis for much of his orchestral music, too, and his own numbers, aptly enough, often called to mind other familiar models — a whiff of Bellini about a romantic duet, a hint of Sibelius's *Valse Triste* when the ghosts are dancing.

Davis first suggested making the ballet, and collaborated with Christopher Gable on the scenario as well as writing the score. The production team is the one that worked together on NBT's *Romeo and Juliet*. Gable as director, Massimo Moricone as choreographer, Les Brotherton as designer.

Brotherton's costumes for the ghosts are, with one exception, especially successful. Scrooge's dead partner Jacob Marley makes a frightening appearance (treading as heavily as the Commendatore in Davis's score) removing his scarf to let his jaw gap.

DAVID MASSINGHAM's dancers look alert, cool, confident. They are sexy dressed, mostly in figure-hugging briefs (red plastic or fashionable black), or slinky clothes suited to a social evening. Their presentation is confident, laid-back. All this is just as well, because what they have to perform is not actually very interesting.

The best piece on their programme, shown briefly in London before an autumn tour, is also the only comparatively old piece: *Six Bassey Songs*, which dates from 1989. Two couples in a bar each dance two contrasting duets, with group numbers to frame them for and aft. The mood varies from smoochy to sentimental, just as the Shirley Bassey recordings prove a motley collection, ranging from tacky

## DANCE

### Brief encounters

David Massingham Bloomsbury

to impassioned. In this piece, the context gives Massingham a basis of raw material in the form of some dances which he can beef up with social acrobatic partnering. Similarly, with the short opening number, *Scrum*, rugby football tackles, runs and throws are arranged in slow motion and repeated several times over, accompanied by snatches of monstrously inflated Shostakovich, which sound as if

they must come from one of his film scores. The choreography bears little relationship to the music, but that lack of any correlation was obviously seen as a screamingly funny joke by some spectators.

The two more ambitious new works show up more clearly Massingham's lack of any personal movement vocabulary. In *To Power*, the dancers pose and posture in the gloom around two

metal sculptures by Charles Quick, accompanied by a rag-bag selection of recordings by four composers. The music for *Severance* is all by Dead Can Dance, but again sounds like a pot-pourri, starting religious and going on to numbers evoking various folkloric styles. The groupings here set the dancers in various confrontations without ever getting to any real dramatic or emotional point, and the writhings that pass for choreography do not build any independent interest.

The dancers (Idit Spiro and Christopher Carney especially) carry the weight of the evening well, but the material gives them little opportunity to leave any memorable impression.

JOHN PERCIVAL

voiceover to tell their story, and they do tend to repeat their comic or scary effects rather often. But the company does them proud. Jeremy Kerridge as Scrooge is confined for too much of the evening to acting snappy or timorous,

but gets his reward in a crazy comic solo around or across his bed as, regenerated, he dresses for the final happy Christmas.

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## ROCK

### It's tough at the top

Chris de Burgh Earls Court

"WE'RE going to dance our socks off tonight," said Chris de Burgh at the start of his show last Friday. It was more a challenge than a promise: many of the 18,000 fans had reached the age where dancing should be attempted only under a doctor's supervision.

Every fortyish star envisages himself as a dangerous rock desperado but de Burgh's need to toughen up must be especially compelling. He is popularly perceived as the archetypal carter-smooth, and his signature song, "Lady in Red", as a masterpiece of dripiness. Hardly surprising, then, that in concert he astoundingly projects a harder image.

Even more startling, at least to this viewer, was that de Burgh, Rock Animal, was pretty convincing. Where compatriots like Mark Knopfler regard the stage as a laser-lit armchair, de Burgh was determined to occupy every inch. He was incessantly active, running between microphone stand

and drum riser, pausing occasionally to relate a salty anecdote. Credulity-stretching as it may sound, he was not unlike a middle-aged Sid Vicious.

In all other respects the two-hour show was the theatrical spectacle you expect from pop's multimillionaire classes. The stage was dominated by an immense serpentine inflatable whose curves were illuminated by a dramatic light show. De Burgh and band were drenched in cool mists and greens, the effect prettified by mirrors suspended from the ceiling.

The star worked through the new *Power of Ten* album and what seemed like hundreds of other tunes. Fortunately, the ratio of sentimental ballads, such as "Much More Than This", to low-rockers like "Light A Fire" was low. De Burgh sustained the up-beat mood with a music-hall singalong, "Patricia (The Stripper)".

Then, in an invidious category of its own, came "Lady in Red". Since it was released in 1986 this work has graced the jukebox of every pub in the land. It is hard to imagine a sicker confluence of mawkishness and doe-eyed earnestness. De Burgh sang it with admirable restraint, hands thrusty in pockets. Performed so, it was almost rather moving. Afterward, though, you could not shake the sensation of wanting to brush your teeth.

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## ROCK

### Werewolf bites back

Warren Zevon Town and Country

CURRENTLY making what he termed an "Homeric quest" around the world recording performances for a forthcoming live album, Zevon's one-off London appearance, his first in several years, drew what must have been a gratifyingly large crowd for the Californian singer-songwriter.

Despite having released 11 solo LPs since his eponymous 1976 debut, the bespectacled, pony-tailed Zevon remains best known in Britain for the early "Werewolves of London", a particularly black-humoured novelty song. He performed it dutifully here, but gently silenced those fans who had been waiting all evening for the chance to indulge in some lycanthropic baying. "You wouldn't want me to end up singing that in Las Vegas, would you?" he asked. "Now I'd like you to listen to some other songs."

Linda Ronstadt, his early champion in the days when she still considered herself a rock performer, added a sweet and wistful tone to what remained some

of Zevon's most concise and affecting songs. "Carmelia", even now one of the most vivid depictions of a drug addict's misery to have been penned, was darker, more sardonic, here. And two other Ronstadt favourites, the piano ballad "Hasten Down the Wind" and the rousing "Poor Poor Pitiful Me", were also sharper in their author's own rendition.

Zevon revealed, mid-set, that his most enduring influences are author Norman Mailer and the white blues artist John Hammond Jr. And in the course of his lengthy appearance one became increasingly aware of their relevance.

The title track to his most recent LP, *Mr Bad Influence*, could hardly be called musically sophisticated, yet as a condemnation of the value structure of his home state it would be hard to better. Even what he called his foray into "easy listening" territory, the deceptively pretty "Searching for a Heart", packed a lyrical punch.

And if there were moments of self-indulgence in an evening that saw an unaccompanied Zevon alternate only between guitars and keyboards, they were more than compensated for by his intelligence and insight. That he is still supported by the multi-national that sells us Prince and Madonna is something of a minor miracle.

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ALAN JACKSON



TELEVISION REVIEW: Peter Barnard is dismayed by the first morning of Channel 4's *The Big Breakfast*

## No appetite for a breakfast with Bob



Bob Geldof: shaven and unshaven in the same show

Breakfast television has been through so many incarnations that it must soon attract a franchise bid from the Dalai Lama. En route to this inevitable development we now have Saint Bob, the beloved Geldof. He is the star turn of *The Big Breakfast*, Channel 4's latest attempt to turn us into a nation of jugglers: defined as people who can watch the box while balancing a fried egg on a fork.

The short history of breakfast television has demonstrated that the very name is a contradiction in terms. At this time of day we are attempting, most of us, to get up and

get out. Thus is radio the obvious, logical, backdrop — and thus does *The Big Breakfast* attempt to sell itself as "radio TV".

The term comes from the press release, a ghastly mix of pretentious nonsense and ludicrous imagery: "This is a show that curdles your milk and sends your fried eggs running for their shells."

That is at least fair preparation for the programme itself, a ghastly mix of pretentious nonsense and ludicrous imagery. It is tabloid television minus the substance we have come to associate with, for example, the *Daily Sport*. Channel 4 is rightly committed

to the pursuit of minority audiences, but how large a minority do the terminally morose constitute?

The show is set not in a studio but in three east London lock-keeper's cottages which have been knocked into one. The result is the pre-existing three breakfast shows, knocked into one. The colours are primary — yellow, red, blue — on the presumed argument that at 7am we need cheering up. I am reminded of an early-evening remark by a friend in a bar: "If this is happy hour, why am I so miserable?"

Naturally, the presenters are horribly cheerful. "I'm

Chris". "And I'm Gabby". They banter back and forth with the crew. They throw things at them. The crew throws things at them. The news comes every 20 minutes, no more than 10 seconds per story, nothing (yesterday) foreign, unless you count the retirement of Imran Khan.

There are cartoons: boy, are there cartoons. There is a competition: "Who's washing line is it anyway?" Five items are hung on the line and people call in to guess to whom they might belong. Yesterday they belonged to Kylie Minogue.

There is a "family of the week", the Molynseus from

Liverpool, who have moved into the lock-keeper's premises to talk to us about each other. And about world events: the David Mellor resignation was "a shame". Er... possibly.

Shortly after 8am comes Geldof. He describes what he has seen so far as "rubbish", and I am not here to disagree with him. We cut to the first of Geldof's much-hyped interviews, to be shown in segments of a couple of minutes down the week. Paul Keating, the Australian prime minister, talks to Geldof about putting his arm around the Queen — he says that he didn't. And about being a

republican — he says he is. Keating, in fact, says nothing new to Geldof, who has shaved for his live appearance on the programme but not for his recorded interview with Keating. Old Bob, so perverse, don't love him? Shortly afterwards, Bob's wife Paula Yates arrives to interview Joanna Lumley, for a reason I now forget. At least things are looking up.

But looks are not enough, not on "radio TV". In the days since the mission to explain of TV-am's Famous Five, breakfast television has been on a slippery slope. I had thought Roland Rat marked the bottom. Not quite.

## Colour lights up the life of Riley

When Bridget Riley first became celebrated in the 1960s, her art was notorious for its eye-battering toughness. Direct assaults seemed to be launched on the retina, by paintings which sucked the viewer into a dazzling vortex or sent lines coursing down the canvas in a cascade as overwhelming as a mountain waterfall. No wonder Riley was thought of as a combative young artist. Fiercely uncompromising, she was prepared to fight anyone who tried to steal her images for Op Art-derived fashion fabrics or billboard boardings.

Now, however, in her 61st year, the controversial prodigy has been replaced by a quieter, more reflective artist. Not that the paintings in the first room of this Hayward exhibition of work from the past decade are any less rigorous than before. Thin vertical stripes fill each canvas with their stern authority, signalling Riley's undiminished commitment to an abstract language. But the black-and-white aggression of her early work is exchanged, here, for a love affair with colour. Although black stripes still appear in many of these paintings, they are interspersed with clusters of high-keyed greens, yellows, blues and oranges. They enliven our eyes without directly assailing them. And Riley's titles

Richard Cork on an artist who combines rigour with warmth

often point to a starting-point in observation of nature. References to *Cherry Autumn* or *Burnished Sky* suggest that pattern-making in a sealed-off studio is not her concern. Rather she tries to find an equivalent for the visual sensations which excite her in the world beyond the window. Without recording in a literal way, she does invite us to see her stripes as the pared-down essence of her response. Thus, on one level, the stripes of a painting such as *Summer's Field* might refer to a close-up scrutiny of thickly-packed wheat or grass. But they could equally well derive from a more distant prospect — an aerial view, perhaps.

Abstraction allows Riley to juggle with several references in one picture — as well as continuing to assert the primacy of a flat, painted surface with a pictorial reality of its own. But as we move through this magisterial exhibition, so she reveals a greater willingness to let nature enrich the stern scaffolding of her previous work. By 1986, when *Gentle Edge* was painted, the

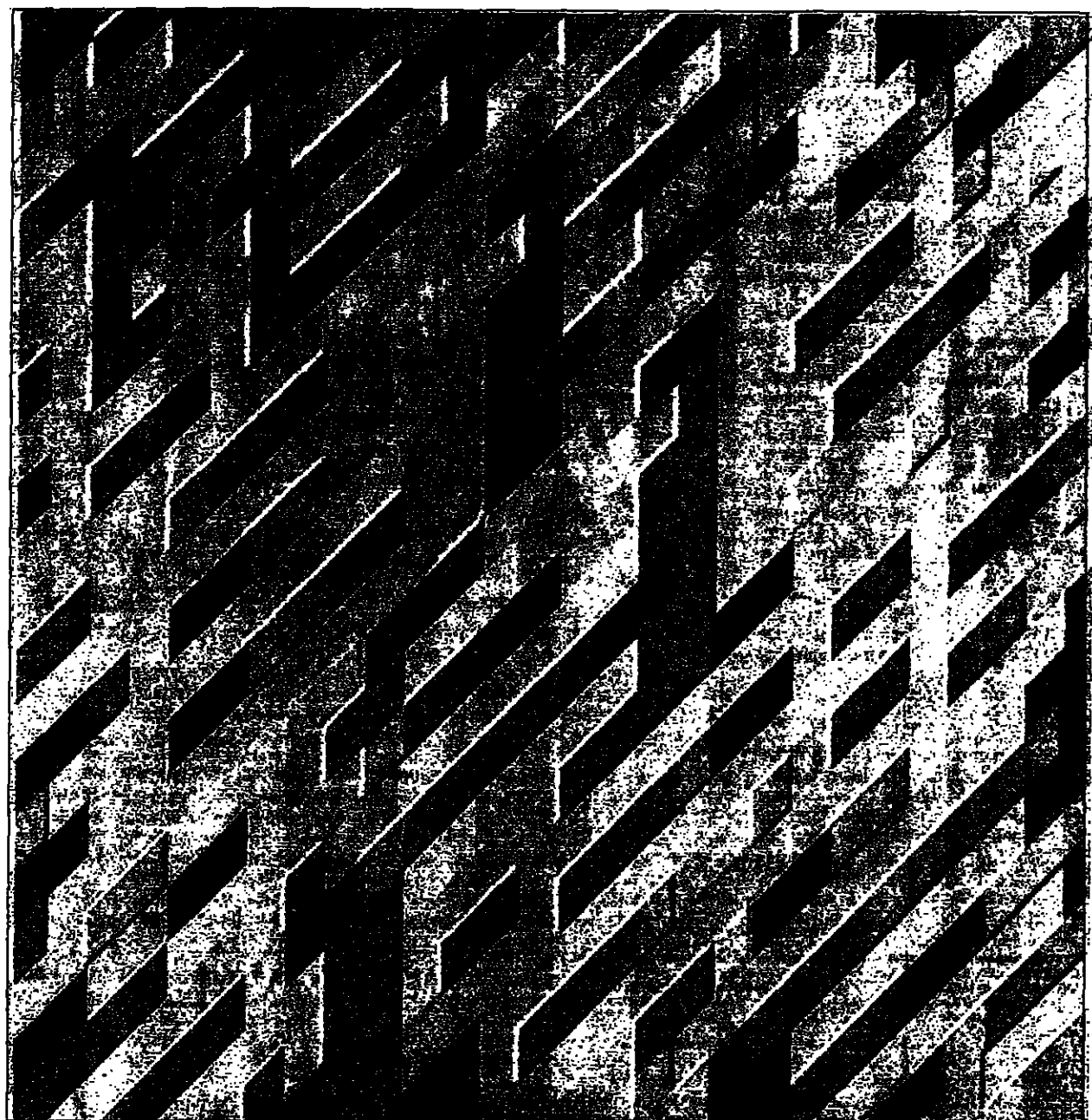
austere verticals had begun to sprout diagonal offshoots. They grow out of the upright stripes like leaves springing from plant stalks, and the colours are softer and warmer than in the early 1980s.

Within a couple of years, though, some of the former vibrancy had returned. In *New Day*, one of the strongest paintings of the period, the dense crowding has been loosened to admit generous areas of white. And substantial clumps of black exert a refreshing influence in a picture where the emphasis on vertical poles of colour is matched, now, by an increased reliance on diagonal shafts.

Eventually, in the most recent paintings, the diagonals are allowed to perform an outspoken role. They travel across each composition like sunlight falling through a wood, animating each of the vertical forms which now resemble tree trunks.

Riley's compositions remain as tightly ordered as ever, and they are also reminiscent of sumptuous patchwork quilts. But the idea of standing in a forest glade will not go away. Despite her strict adherence to systematic abstract schemes, these new Riley's may one day be seen as exclamatory additions to the British landscape tradition at its most headlong.

● Bridget Riley at the Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 3144), until Dec 6



Into Place, 1987: abstraction allows Riley to juggle with several possible references within the same picture

## Progress under pressure

As is the gristy way in rock 'n' roll, the death of Freddie Mercury last November prompted a huge upturn in worldwide sales of Queen material. Even now, the group's manager Jim Beach says he has never been so busy, and the surviving members, guitarist Brian May, bassist John Deacon and drummer Roger Taylor, still have frequent meetings to deal with their continuing business affairs. But according to May, no firm decisions have yet been taken about the future of the group.

"We're very close and we do a lot of talking," he says in his quiet, earnest voice. "There are certain things we can do in the future. We can finish off a small amount of material on which Freddie has sung, but which hasn't been released yet. As for going out on the road, we don't seem to have any consensus of opinion yet."

"My personal feeling is that we should never go out and try and be Queen again. It doesn't make sense without Freddie. At the same time I don't want to close the door on ever working with those guys again. Personally, I would like to take a bit of a breather; get the chance to find out who I am, and think about it all a bit later on."

May can afford to be sanguine. Unlike the other two he has already launched a solo career with both perfect timing and conspicuous success. His debut single "Driven By You", first heard as the soundtrack of a Ford car commercial, reached No 6 earlier this year and the follow-up, "Too Much Love Will Kill You", peaked at No 5 this month.

His debut album, *Back to the Light*, is released this week. It is a varied collection of mainstream rockers and ballads, pitched roughly in the Queen tradition, and featuring some surprisingly robust vocal performances by May.

"I worked very hard on the singing. I built up my voice by going in every day and doing a couple of hours, just like a weight training course. And of course I learned a lot from Freddie. He was a totally self-motivated man. If there was anything he wanted to do but couldn't, he would go away

Having launched a successful new solo career, Queen's guitarist Brian May talks to David Sinclair about trying to come to terms with the death of Freddie Mercury



Brian May: evidently something of a perfectionist

and learn how to do it." May, who is evidently something of a perfectionist himself, has spent five years working (on and off) on the album. They have been five of the most traumatic years of his life. The death of his father, his highly publicised relationship with Anita Dobson and the break-up of his marriage, were all conducted against a background of nagging fears for the future of both Mercury and Queen. The group's last tour ended at Knebworth on August 9, 1986, but according to May, Mercury did not divulge that he was suffering from Aids until "just a few

months before his death". "There was a period leading up to that when we were fairly convinced that we knew what was wrong, but we respected the fact that he didn't want to talk to us about it. He didn't tell us anything in the early days. He just suddenly, categorically said: 'I don't want to tour.' I think he was dealing with it privately for years.

"He never asked for sympathy from anyone else. He was a very strong person and always liked to be in control of his own destiny. He knew that if he did announce it his life would become a circus and he would be prevented from

going about his business, which was making music. He wanted it to be business as usual until the end. There was no drama, no tears in his eyes. He was incredibly self-contained."

Even so, once Mercury's condition was fully understood, the pressures on the group became immense. "We didn't feel we could speak about it to anyone," May says. "It was particularly hard lying barefacedly to our friends. And, of course, we had to stand by and watch this incredibly talented, strong man, in the prime of his life, gradually wasting away. There was a terrible feeling of helplessness."

For May, now 45, the strain of this period seems to have triggered something of a mid-life crisis.

A tall, willowy figure, he stands six foot two and a half, plus clogs and hair, his furrowed brow and rather woe-begone expression reveal a highly-strung interviewee. He speaks at times as if the worries of the world are his copyright, an impression which the lyrics on his album do nothing to contradict. On one track he admits to being scared of everything — from Steven Berkoff to "being ugly, being boring, being dull".

"I've been through a very hard time in the last few years and had therapy and all kinds of stuff which I don't particularly want to talk about, but you do realise that we're all little children inside."

Born in Hampton, Middlesex, May had the sort of stable, well-educated upbringing that is something of a liability in rock 'n' roll. "There was an underlying belief in fairy tales. I was not taught how tough life is." His father, a gifted electronics engineer, helped him to build his own guitar when he was in his teens, and May uses that same, home-made instrument to this day. Although he is keen to develop his prowess as a singer, he still regards the guitar as "the basic means of doing what I do. It's the only thing I can fully express myself with."

● Back to the Light by Brian May is released on Parlophone (7 80400 2)

THEATRE: *Macbeth* at the Watermill, Newbury

Due to leave next month on visits to the Tokyo Globe and Buenos Aires, Euan Smith's production is stronger in its details than in guiding these towards a unified whole. What we are given is a toughie general, his yonking boots and purple beret identifying him as commanding the Scottish Paratroops, who finds himself out of his depth among the pin-striped courtiers of Cwivie Street. Like the ex-paratroopers in the current television series, he chooses to survive by turning criminal.

This is all very well as a base for *Macbeth's* decline but the moments of uncertainty and

curt choice are inconsistently weighted. Douglas Henshall's reluctance to rise bloodily to the occasion, as his wife demands, is clearly expressed yet it follows a scene where his own dawning thoughts on murder lack the appropriate alarm. His back-and-forth interpretation relates less to the character's Hamlet-like wavering between indecision and impulse than to his style of dealing with these changes. While he brings a fine frenzy

## Fair is not foul enough

to his "Sleep no more", staring haggardly at his hangman's hands, his "Tomorrow" speech goes jogging past, and "Then comes my fit again", on learning of Fleance's escape, suggests that it troubles him little more than the chef's regret that the haggis will be a little late.

Gregory Smith's conveniently transportable set contains no vertical scenery — the production here, as in Tokyo, is designed in the round — and consists of worn slabs crossed with deep conduits such as might convey blood away in an abattoir.

The witches crouch around a grating that is sometimes lifted to reveal a dead body floating in reddish water. This offers the prospect of grisly visions to come, but nothing

ever emerges from this substitute cauldron. Nothing goes into it either, not one toe of frog.

Smith's production requires all the horrid apparatus to be imagined by us yet, once again, Henshall's quick recital of them gives them insufficient terror. The grating serves as the banquet table with cushions laid around it by the witches, but this seems a mere necessity forced by the confines of the stage than any real identity.

The reversal of power between *Macbeth* and his lady is effectively shown when he mesmerises her into stepping towards him, and Caroline Lomax's distracted wiping of her hands rings true.

There is telling use of play with hands throughout the production and yet possibilities are continually ignored: we have no sense that Malcolm is only pretending to be vicious in order to test *Macduff*. At the end he says so and that's that. The production relies too much on this take it or leave it approach.

JEREMY KINGSTON



Deborah Warner: debut at Glyndebourne in 1994

## Last chance...

THERE is a thesis to be written on the number of groups influenced by the Velvet Underground. The latest is Luna, a trio of refugees from other bands: Dean Wareham (ex-Galaxie 500) on vocals and guitar, Justin Harwood (ex-Chills) on bass and Stanley Demieski (ex-Foetus) on drums. Luna's UK tour ends tomorrow at the Twioli. Buckley (0244 550782).

## Difficult family outings

The Monday Play on Radio 4, *A Bit of Berlin*, was about a conventional English couple who go to Berlin to see their son; after he has been attacked in the street, and discover that he is a homosexual. The theme may have been obvious but the treatment of it was excellent.

The parents, Vic (James Groux) and Barbara (Rowena Cooper), are past masters at concealing things from themselves under wreaths of optimism and ready-to-wear euphemisms. Mark's boyfriend, Dieter (Walter Van Dyke), is beautifully balanced, understands the feelings of all parties, gently teaches the parents about homosexuality and even manages to persuade Mark that he has been cowardly in not telling his parents years ago.

The weakest element was the revelation that Vic himself,

in Berlin after the war, took part in a vicious attack on an old man, even fantasising that the victim was a "pervert". All told, this was perhaps as much a liberal education lesson as a play, but it was well worth putting on.

Another story about people having to adjust to the unexpected is being read on Radio 4 this week and next. In this case it is the Queen and her family, who have to learn to live on a council estate when the Republican party unexpectedly wins the election.

The author is Sue Townsend, and this is an abridged version of her new novel *The Queen and I*. It is read by Miriam Margolyes, who also mimics the voices in an accurate and kindly way, except for the Queen, who is given a Donald Duck quack.

Townsend's Adrian Mole had his first triumph on radio,

so it was understandable that John Tydemana, Mole's producer, should also want to do this book. However, *The Queen and I* is nothing like as funny. Such a provocative idea cries out either for bitter mockery or comic extravagance. What we get is the Royal Family learning to cope with in-opener and queues at the out-patients — and, moreover, coping with enthusiasm or at least impeccable sang-froid.

The Prince of Wales is delighted by what he thinks is the primitive life, the Queen Mother loves her bungalow, and the Queen keeps her dignity through thick and thin. Clearly Sue Townsend is no more a republican than most of us. She gives us satire with nothing challenging about it, and comedy with very low-key laughs.

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# Mysteries cut to the bones

George Hill on how the new DNA tests have re-opened several ancient cases and could solve long-standing mysteries

More dry bones are bound to start rising up and telling stories, now that the Romanovs have pointed the way. Whether or not it proves possible to identify the murdered Tsar and his family from the burned and splintered fragments of bone brought from the burial pit at Ekaterinburg to the forensic laboratory at Aldermaston, the discovery has fastened public attention as nothing else could have done on the possibilities of DNA analysis for resolving mysteries.

From ancient Egypt to the Wild West, hitherto unanswerable questions have now become answerable, in principle at least, through the technique of mitochondrial DNA analysis. It can unmask imposters, confirm the pretensions of disbelieved claimants and can reunite long-separated families.

The technique has already had important successes. In Argentina, children who were left orphans by the murder squads of the former dictatorship, and given away for adoption while still babies, have been identified and reunited with their families by comparison of their DNA with that of their grandparents.

Earlier this year, German and Israeli authorities accepted that Dr Josef Mengele, the Auschwitz doctor responsible for the deaths of 400,000 Jews, was truly dead, after studying the findings of tests made by Professor Alec Jeffreys of Leicester University, and other scientists, on the bones of a man who had drowned in Brazil in 1979. The DNA in the bones was compared with that in samples contributed by Mengele's son.

The same techniques could also provide answers to far older mysteries. The fate of the vanished princes in the Tower of London is one. The story that they were murdered by Richard III has never been universally accepted.

Some writers still believe that one or both of the princes survived. For several years after 1494, Perkin Warbeck claimed to be the younger prince, and thus the rightful king of England. He was captured, retracted

his claim and hanged. Nearly 200 years later, in Charles II's reign, two small skeletons were discovered under a staircase in the Tower. They were buried in Westminster Abbey and still lie in an urn in Henry VIII's chapel.

Analysis of the bones in the urn might go some way towards showing whether or not the lives of the princes really ended in the Tower. The patterns of DNA — deoxyribonucleic acid, the main constituent of chromosomes — are handed down so consistently from mother to daughter (not from mother to son) that 20 or so generations later there should still be a clear correspondence between the DNA of the princes and that of a living relative in the female line, if one could be found.

Prising open tombs could solve other ancient puzzles. The murders of Edward II and Richard II in 1327 and 1400 also gave rise to rumours. Bodies alleged to be theirs lie in Gloucester Cathedral and Westminster Abbey, but there is contemporary evidence that Edward escaped and wandered incognito through many countries before dying in Lombardy.

Rumours persisted long after Richard's death that his chaplain, Richard Maudeyn, who resembled him closely, had been killed in mistake for him. The king of Scotland, no doubt hoping to foment trouble in England, paid a pension for years to a supposed Richard, and had him buried in 1419 in Black Friar's church, Stirling. Richard's tomb at Westminster was opened in the last century, and his skull was still intact then. Which of the two Richards has the more regal genes?

It is not likely that disturbing any of these bones would add much to serious knowledge. It would be tempting to seek out another skeleton — that of the notorious Tichborne claimant, who fascinated London in the 1860s by claiming to be the lost heir of a baronetcy and a large Hampshire estate. After a series of court cases, he was declared to be the son of a Wapping butcher. He was jailed for perjury and died in poverty.



Skull's secrets: tests may identify the Tsar



Where are they now? The mystery of Butch Cassidy (seated, right) and the Sundance Kid (seated, left), here in their Hole in the Wall days, could at last be solved

For the remoter past, DNA analysis has great potential in tracing the movement of prehistoric populations, but will rarely be useful in confirming individual relationships, because the physical evidence will be too scanty.

One exception could be ancient Egypt, where light might perhaps be shed on the mysteries surrounding Akhenaten, the heretic monotheist pharaoh of the 14th century BC. Mummies and locks of hair have been found which probably belonged to several of his close relatives — one of them his son-in-law, Tutankhamun. But no mummy has been convincingly identified as that of Akhenaten, whose reign ended in obscurity.

A mystery of the Wild West may soon yield to DNA testing — what really became of Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid?

One of the most memorable moments in westerns is the ending of the Robert Redford and Paul Newman film about them: the two cornered outlaws, having fled north America with Pinkerton detectives on their trail, are trapped and wounded, somewhere in Bolivia.

Surrounded by overwhelming forces, they choose not to surrender, but defiantly burst out of their hiding place to be caught in a frozen frame an instant before they are mown down by the fire of hundreds of waiting soldiers.

Even before the film was made, and still more vehemently afterwards, historians disputed the conclusion. With every passing year, a new set of theories, some more, some less credible, has emerged about the fate of America's most famous outlaws. By the last estimate, Butch and Sundance have been reported dead at least 24 times on three continents. Now, more than 80 years after their disappearance, a pile of bones unearthed from a Bolivian graveyard and the most sophisticated techniques available to modern forensic science may be about to show that Hollywood was more or less right after all.

In 1985, Anne Meadows, a freelance writer, and her husband, Dan Buck, set about unravelling the mystery. After six years of research in Chile, Washington, Argentina and Bolivia, they came

across some diplomatic correspondence referring to a shoot-out between a couple of gringos and the local police in San Vicente, a tiny mining town 4,000 metres up the Andes, rumoured to be the death-place of Butch and Sundance, whose real names were Robert Leroy Parker and Harry Longbaugh.

When Ms Meadows and Mr Buck got to San Vicente they found a 54-year-old man named Friolán Risso who said his father had witnessed the shoot-out as a boy. Senor Risso led them to a spot in the San Vicente graveyard where his father had indicated the two men were buried.

late last year, Ms Buck and Mr Meadows returned to San Vicente graveyard, this time with a scientific team headed by Clive Snow, a forensic anthropologist famed in America for his part in identifying the remains of Mengele as well as the bodies of torture victims in Argentina. With permission from the local authorities, they began digging at the spot in the graveyard

indicated by Senor Risso. Nine feet down they found the body of one large man, and a little way away the skull of another.

Back in his forensic laboratory at the University of Oklahoma, Dr Snow set to work on the remains. He ascertained that both were caucasians, aged about 40. One had entry and exit holes in the skull from a bullet passing through both temples, while the forehead of the other was smashed, a hole which could have been caused by another bullet fired between the eyes.

The wounds are consistent with the theory that the outlaws, outgunned and possibly wounded, had entered into a death pact, with Butch shooting Sundance before turning his gun on himself. That coincides with an account given in Bolivian army records.

Computerised reconstructions of the shape of the outlaws' heads, taken from photographs, have been compared with the skulls and are said by the scientists to match up "pretty well", but as Dan Buck frankly admits, there is nothing that definitively proves that the bones taken from San Vicente

graveyard are those of the two outlaws.

"But there is nothing to suggest that it isn't them either," he says, "and that's the most we could hope for until the DNA tests come through." Dr Snow and his team are carrying out genetic fingerprinting, comparing DNA from the remains with that of other members of the outlaws' families. Given the large number of Parker siblings, finding Butch's relatives was relatively easy, according to Ms Buck, but tracing family for the Sundance Kid required a scramble to the outer limbs of the Longbaugh family tree.

Even if the DNA tests prove positive, since neither outlaw had children, the only way to achieve a certain DNA fingerprint match would be to dig up their parents, whose graves are unknown. A final verdict on the DNA tests is not expected for several months. Even then the scientists will deal only in probabilities. The outlaws' final whereabouts may never be known to certain. They would probably prefer it to be that way.

Additional reporting by Ben MacIntyre.

Joe Joseph's canapés have been more imaginative, his cutlery co-ordinated, since he went on the Lucie Clayton Entertaining course

We all know there are certain rules the considerate hostess bears in mind if she wants her guests to break bread with their fellow diners without wanting also to break their heads. Mostly, dining decorum is just common sense.

For instance: while crusted port and Havana cigars are acceptable items for circulation around the dinner table, photographs of your children are not, unless they happen to be criminals with high rewards for recapture hanging over their heads.

But for some women, the

thought of having people over sends them dizzy. Rest easy ladies, Lucie Clayton wants to help. The famous finishing school for girls is launching a series of one-day Entertaining courses for the older woman who feels that she lacks the know-how, or maybe just the confidence, to ensure her dinner parties last past 9.30pm.

Just how unconfident do you need to be? "For women who could give a useful tip or two to the editor of *Gourmet*," says Lucie's promotion brochure, "this is not the course that we would recommend. This is a day for the middle-

brow lady anxious to ensure her own freedom from blunders and blunders."

By the time she is on her train back to Buxton at the end of the course, the middle-brow attendee should feel able to invite the entire Rotary Club to dinner without fear of blunder or blunder, having spent £110 learning how to choose and plan courses and wine, cook the main dish, set the table, pick the right cutlery and glasses and place the guests in the correct order. Even how to weave a stunning flower arrangement.

Does going to all this fuss still matter? Do Buxton hostesses have sleepless nights if their dinner service doesn't match? Will your friends never speak to you again if you serve them potatoes straight out of the saucepan? Doesn't Buxton have decent restaurants where you can meet friends for a meal without going to all the bother of spooning the supermarket salmon pâté into your own serving bowl and hoping nobody asks for the recipe, which would force you to explain why you always add a pinch of anti-oxidant to all your dishes, just in case?

Lucie Clayton herself is torn about the subject of etiquette. Leslie Kark, who runs the school, has reached the smart conclusion that it's more important to be civil and considerate than to be able to recite Debré's. "My own view," he

## Etiquette on a plate

ADRIAN BROOKS



Knack of the napkin: the course gives advice on how to dress a table

says, "is that if you don't know what to do with your finger bowl then it doesn't matter. But some people do worry."

So is it cruel to perpetuate the belief that there are rigid rules that an elegant hostess ignores only if she wants to risk social ridicule? Or is it even crueler to deny anxious women a sort of "Emily-Post-best-behaviour" truss that will give them social support when they next do a dinner for eight, and give them the confidence of knowing that even if the

main course tastes like dog food, it has at least been carved correctly?

Nine middle-brow women who saw advertisements in magazines such as *Good Housekeeping* turned up at Lucie Clayton's Kensington headquarters for the first Entertaining course. The day began with advice on planning a dinner party. Let's not take the mystery out of the course, but here is a taste of what will bring confident evenings to Buxton once more.

while sitting on the stylistic fence, pre-plating-wise. "I've got some very personal, strong ideas about napkins. There is a swing away from starched napkins to napkins that are friendlier to use", though a strip of kitchen roll may be too friendly.

Where do you put the napkin? "I think the side plate is the ideal position, if you are in a side plate situation." And, get this, "It's always nice to have a menu". Perhaps it confuses guests into leaving a

tip under the cheese plate?

Cookery tips follow from two young chefs, trained by Proulx. Katie Rogers and Mark Wogan, Terry's son, prepare melted goat's cheese salad, rolled and stuffed chicken, and chocolate marquise. Very professional, though they do not drop food on the floor or lick their fingers like restaurant cooks. Perhaps they are scared of starting a trend among Buxton hostesses for dunking their fists into sauces to check the seasoning.

A woman who demonstrates flower-arranging advises making your arrangement "one-sixth the size of the table and you can't go wrong". A sommelier tells the ladies "if there's only one line of bubbles going up the middle of the glass, then it's a good champagne. If it bubbles like Coca-Cola, then it's cheap champagne." So now we can tell how miserly our hosts are.

"Ginger ale in a champagne glass looks like champagne." You would have thought guests could tell the difference, unless you have been so imaginative with the canapés that you laced them with cannabis.

Does all this help soothe furrowed middle-brows? A lady from Croydon says it does: "I entertain quite a lot. The presentation of the table means a lot. You want to give dinner parties where people want to come back. They mention it to friends and you widen your circle of friends." Was there really a chapter on friendly napkin-folding and china colour-coordination in Dale Carnegie's book *How To Win Friends And Influence People*? I missed it.

"From our point of view, it worked very well," Mr Kark says at the end of the course's inaugural run.

They were shy. They weren't very good at asking questions. But that's why they've come. To gain more social confidence.

So what's it to you and me if a bunch of women want to stop making fools of themselves by mixing red flowers

and yellow plates? Only this: if we must have hostessing hints, hostesses should maybe learn a few that will enrich the lives of those dinner guests whose priorities focus on more pressing culinary matters than how to knot napkins. Let's not forget the following:

● Unless entertaining Olympic athletes in training, it is not necessary to provide a meal which satisfies the recommended minimum daily requirements for all known vitamins and minerals. Calories taste much better.

● A hostess who obliges a guest's request for the recipe of her *veal supreme* is in danger of taking life too seriously.

● Cooks who seriously believe there are 101 ways with Quorn would do well to remember that even Einstein managed only a couple of major theories in his lifetime.

● While thinking on one's feet is merely dangerous, eating on one's feet is unsightly and is best left to bears and those monkeys that nature has adapted for this purpose. This is why we have tables and chairs and they do not.

● The quality of the food should be of paramount importance to the thoughtful hostess. If fillet steak costs £10 per lb and pig's knuckles just 20p per lb, then rest assured that the free market is trying to tell you something.

● Diets make suitable dinner conversation only if one is seeking to comment indirectly on the meagre size of the portions served. If you are battling with your figure, keep it to yourself. Chew all your food, just don't swallow.

● Your hostess's decision to start with Thai satay sticks is not sufficient excuse to recount your youthful exploits in Bangkok with the merchant navy.

● The knowledge that most healthy adults can subsist without anything but water for a week or more is knowledge best ignored by the hostess who wishes to receive thank-you letters.

Bon appetit

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# The family secret is out

Should children conceived by donor insemination be told the truth about their birth, at the risk of exposing them to pain and prejudice? Ann Lloyd reports

**D**id you look sad like that?" was the question six-year-old Simon asked his Mum when they sat down to read his new book, *My Story*.

The picture Simon was curious about shows a couple sitting close together on a sofa and looking upset. The man's arm is placed tenderly around the woman's shoulders. On the opposite page it says: "Mummy and Daddy tried for a long time to have a baby and they were very sad when no baby began to grow. It goes on to explain, in a way which a four to seven-year-old can understand, how a child is conceived by donor insemination (DI).

The book is written as if the child in the story is the child reading the book. On the last page is an empty picture-frame for the child's own photograph, with the word "Me" underneath. Simon's photo, taken when he was four, is now in his book.

Both Simon and his two-year-old brother, Andrew, were conceived by donor insemination. His mother, Jane Offord, is one of the two authors of the book; the other is Angela Mays, who also has a son conceived by DI, Ben, who is three, and a daughter, Sally, seven months.

"Simon completely accepted the book," says Mrs Offord. "There was no big drama. He just thoroughly enjoyed reading it with me and was thrilled to bits that it was his very own true story." She believes that if you tell children the truth "with love and trust, they will accept it no matter how awful that truth might seem to other people."

When Simon went to school he wanted to take "his book" with him. Mrs Offord and her husband, Neil, allowed him to do so. "We'd already spoken to his teacher," says Mrs Offord. "It's important that if you do decide to tell a child conceived by DI the truth, you then put his teachers and close family and friends in the picture. They need to be prepared so they don't misunderstand or brush aside something he might say."

Mrs Offord and Mrs Mays met at the insemination clinic of the University Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, the Jessop Hospital for Women, Sheffield, which is supervised by Dr Sheila Cooke. Dr Cooke places much emphasis on counselling at the clinic; information is not only freely given, but support is also offered. She points out that for many couples treatment can be quite stressful.

The idea for *My Story* originated when Dr Cooke visited Mrs Offord in hospital after Andrew's birth and showed her an Australian book aimed at older children conceived by DI. Mrs Offord, who is a primary school teacher, mapped out the first rough outline in 20 minutes, although it was nearly two years before the book was published.

Dr Cooke, who was involved in the book's production from the beginning, points out that it emphasises

"how much Mummy and Daddy loved each other and wanted a baby but could only achieve that with help from someone else."

Although Mrs Offord is good at communicating with children, she was nervous before she and Simon began to read *My Story*. So she can really appreciate "how difficult it must be for somebody with no experience of children to know where to start".

Both the Offords and the Mays decided before their children were conceived to tell them the truth. "I have a deep-seated belief that people have the right to know the truth about their origins," says Mrs Mays. "I just couldn't contemplate living with secrecy and, anyway, I consider it a poor basis for a loving, trusting relationship with a child."

However, the Offords and the Mays are the exception. Research indicates that between 66 per cent and 85 per cent of parents of children conceived by DI (about 1,250 a year in the UK) do not tell their children. Reasons given include the need to protect the child from being stigmatised; fear of prejudice on the part of relatives and friends; and a desire to keep confidential the husband's infertility, which is often, but not always, the cause of the problem.

Another couple, Peter and Ann (not their real names), have decided not to tell their daughter, Ruth, now aged six, how she was conceived. They have heard of families turning against children conceived by DI and reading them as if they were alien. "No way is that going to happen to Ruth," says Peter.

One young woman conceived by DI was urged by her mother to "take the secret to the grave". But can anyone keep a secret for a lifetime? And what if a child finds out by accident and discovers its parents had not been honest?

Mrs Offord, in her work as a teacher, has come across one child, aged six, who was "totally devastated" to find out during a family argument that his Mum and Dad were not, in fact, his parents but his aunt and uncle.

And if you opt for secrecy, how do you cope with the anxiety, year in year out, that the child might find out by accident?

In 1981, the sociologist Elizabeth Snowden and her husband, Robert Snowden, professor of family studies at the University of Exeter, interviewed 56 couples who had children, then aged from newborn to four,

conceived by DI. Eight years later they went back and interviewed 30 of the couples again. "Only two out of the 30 couples had told their children how they were conceived. Many of the others had told friends and relatives and yet were quite certain their children would never find out by accident," says Mrs Snowden.

She feels there is a lot more chance of those children finding out than their parents realise. "Both adults and children can sense invisible barriers. Somehow the communication that something's different is there even in the silence."

Further research by the Snowdens indicates that what Mrs Offord has discovered with Simon is right: that if



In the open: Angela and Andy Mays with Ben and Sally, both conceived "with help from someone else"

children conceived by DI are told in a planned and loving way, they accept it quite easily.

Recent legislation, in the form of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act, provides that in the future, adults, or 16-year-olds if marriage is contemplated, who believe they were born as a result of in vitro fertilisation or DI will be able to apply to the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority to find out whether its register indicates they were born as a result of either of these treatments. If so, and if they are planning to get married, they will also be able to discover whether they are related to the person they wish to marry.

Whatever happens in the future,

both the Offords and the Mays feel strongly that the decision whether or not to tell belongs to the parents and to them alone. "If the book helps parents who might be against telling because they just don't know how to do it, then that's good," says Mrs Offord. "They'll be making a more informed decision. But it is their decision. We made the decision which was right for us. Other parents must do the same."

*My Story* (£3.95 including p&pn) is available from Dr Sheila Cooke, University Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Jessop Hospital for Women, Sheffield S3 7RE (phone 0742 766333, ext 320; fax 0742 752153).

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## Ashes to ashes, privet to privet

I never quite got the gist of bio-diversity, but I think it's the very thing I can't do. Maintaining ecological balance between different species.

I used to own a handsome collection of houseplants, but when I got a child-substitute kitten, it swung from the urticaria and killed off all the cacti. After seven spoiled years with us, when the first baby arrived, it packed its spotted handkerchief and moved in with a childless couple down the road.

Children, too, as a breed do not cohabit easily with other life forms. Forget the flora; that expires from neglect. You are far too busy watering and potting your offspring to water and repot your succulents. Fauna are a different issue. Children want pets.

I know that keeping pets is supposed to instruct the young in responsibility and affection, give them lessons in life and death. In my experience it teaches them only about the habits of that sub-species, parents. Eventually your father will feel sorry for the dog and exercise it himself; your mother will be distressed about the murkiness of the fish tank far sooner than you are.

Pet ownership is preceded by passionate interest, weeks of nagging and pleading that your child is the only one in the class. county or cosmos without a pet. All right, if I can't have a lion cub or a pony, what about a small Irish wolfhound, say? Alligators are very clean. Jeremy's uncle has got ferrets we could have for almost nothing...

When you have been talked down from a python to a guinea pig, you give in. In the honeymoon period that follows, much pocket money is expended on collars, cages, hutches and runs, underwater ornaments and water weed. Ignoring stern warnings from the RSPCA that a pet is for life, you purchase it. You discover that the life in question, devoted to pet care, is going to be your own.

Not all pets pass away swiftly to the cemetery at the bottom of the garden. Some go on forever, surviving the children's enthusiasm and even their time under your roof. I know several superannuated rabbits whose original owners are nearing the end of their time at medical school, while the mothers are left still serving lettuce and carrot tops.

Nor do pets offer much useful instruction about death. My children listened in wonder to the tale of a hamster belonging to friends. It expired and was buried with due ceremony in a cotton-wool-lined shoe box. The warmth perked it up to end and it was returned by neighbours two days later having disintegrated itself from its shallow



Davina Lloyd

grave and arrived at their back door. Less a lesson in death than an affirmation of resurrection.

Inevitably, when our own hamster pegged out, the children could not be convinced that this condition of stiff-legged inertia was terminal. The creature lay in state on velvet in a margarine tub on top of the washing machine for days, while they waited for it to stop hibernating. Forbidden to use the machine out of respect, it was a moot point which of us would begin to hum first.

Enough to make you have kittens. And we did. A couple of years ago, I surrendered to the cat call. We approached the Cat Protection League, which advised us to take two, so that they could keep each other company.

The procedure for adoption was no less rigorous than that for human fostering. Our premises were inspected; we were introduced to the mother; I had to sign a contract undertaking to have them spayed and neutered respectively.

**D**epressing then, when we have lavished love and veterinary care to show our respect for the cats, that they show so little for other creatures. They chase spiders, torment moths and periodically bring in bits of passing pigeon. Two goldfish that I won accidentally throwing darts at a fair lived happily with us for years. They have just been snatched by two already well-fed felines.

The nearest I have come to establishing ecological harmony is with our stick insect. It teaches the children little of life, its existence being limited to assuming the immobile appearance of a stick. Nor much of reproduction: s/he manages to produce eggs and little twigs without the assistance of a partner.

It feeds on pieces of rose leaves or hedge, which it closely resembles. At our last home, we used to have to go out after dark to pinch bits of privet from neighbouring gardens. When it finally perishes, I shall continue to feed new pieces of hedge to old pieces of hedge — the last word in bio-uniformity — dust to dust, ashes to ashes, privet to privet.

## Parental rights, and wrongs

The Kingsley "child divorce" in Florida poses some awkward questions for British parents

**C**hildren," said Oscar Wilde, "begin by loving their parents. After a time they judge them; rarely, if ever, do they forgive them."

Gregory Kingsley has got through all these stages by the age of 12. His mother, he said, "breaks promises". He agreed that he forgave and did not want to hurt her, but when the court in Florida rose, Gregory had made legal history by divorcing his Mom.

He joins his foster family for good, to become Gregory Russ, and after the extraordinary press and television exposure his case received, one can only wish him a decent measure of anonymity in which to grow up.

Children's rights campaigners are delighted. Some Republicans regard it as an assault on the family. But how do we British parents feel, watching from our own family firesides an ocean away?

Did we shudder at this evidence of the state's power to divide mother and child? Or did we rejoice at the implication that children should be listened to?

We have, after all, now achieved our own Children's Act, which some say undermines parental rights, and others welcome as a statement that no son or daughter is a chattel. In this country, the term "divorce" is unlikely to occur in the same context as the Kingsley case, but a child can apply for a residence order away from home, and prevent

his parents from contacting him. We look at Gregory Kingsley, and his mother, and the Russ family, with mixed and troubled feelings.

The child's fate, at the moment he won the case, probably overwhelmed most onlookers with a sense of pure relief. At times, Gregory had appeared depressingly priggish and unchildlike in the witness box, but just then, his tearful joy made him look ten years younger, a lost infant sighting his parents across a threatening landscape.

He is clearly best off where he is. But there were disquieting class undertones to the case, a sense of tidy people in suits siding with other tidy people in suits.

Gregory, not to put too fine a point on it, looked distinctly preppy after his year in the kind, affluent family of the lawyer George Russ. There he was in his little collar and tie. And there was his mother, a single parent, big and warm and chaotic and broke.

Evidence mounted against her, as it always does against those who live near the edge: she has a lover with a criminal record who allegedly beats her. She is said to have drunk heavily and used drugs (Gregory remembered marijuana on the hall table).

She admitted to long periods of not coping and depending on handouts from friends, alone at night. Gregory was shunted into care, rarely visit-

ed, and in effect abandoned. The Russ family, on the other hand, is a stable, affluent two-parent household, able to help Gregory to fight his corner and hire a lawyer. They were always pretty likely to win.

Might not this scenario strike fear into any single parent forced to give up a child for a short time and seeing it fostered into an assertive and well-organised middle-class family? Or indeed, to a parent of rebellious teenagers who seemed to prefer spending their holidays as so many do, at a friend's house? Suppose the other family actually offered your child a home?

**A**nd suppose your child got up in court and said: "Look, my parents have always preferred my sister, they packed me off to boarding school, which I hate, they never turn up for exams, they don't care..."

What if the alternative home offered less discipline and more wealth? Or was devoted to some proselytising sect?

I have known parents of a 15-year-old who were driven wild with worry at her infatuation with a family of Scientologists: suppose that child had the right to "divorce" her family and opt for them?

Older children, after all, are programmed to experiment and explore: it is easy to imagine a court, composed of people who did not think much of your politics or



Sweet sorrow: 12-year-old Gregory Kingsley wipes away a tear during his court case

hippyish clothes or whatever, backing up their rebellion. Paranoid fancies perhaps; but they raise the spectre of an unthinkable loss, a bond forged in pregnancy and babyhood being broken by a cold judiciary.

On the other hand, the suffering of children at the hands of some parents has always been very great: who would not want to see David Copperfield legally divorcing Mr Murdstone, or any of the poor murdered infants of our

own time briskly removed from their hopeless or supine mothers?

Perhaps the Gregory Kingsley case should be just a salutary reminder that there are limits on parental rights: that the less-favoured child, the awkward one, the one who gets on your new boyfriend or girlfriend's nerves and does not get visited as much at boarding school, is not a possession to be taken for granted or a problem which can be left until you feel up to

it. As Fay Weldon crisply put it in her novel *Darcy's Utopia*, it is not relevant when bad parents say — as they always do — that they love their babies. What is more relevant is "whether they are worthy of a baby's love".

Rachel Kingsley was not, and her son was her judge. All our sons and daughters will be, one day. It just happened that Gregory had his say six years earlier than most.

LIBBY PURVES

### AND BRIEFLY

#### Playgirl in pink

THE fuchsia-pink Jaguar convertible which was parked in front of the Savoy last week looked like the ideal car for the Princess of Wales, now that she's given up her Mercedes. But it had been designed for a long-legged blonde who is more internationally popular than the princess, and probably worth even more money: the Barbie doll.

Barbie's Jaguar is available for around £23 from toyshops around the country, one of many new developments the toy company, Mattel, was showing at the hotel.

Barbie also has a mobile — or "magic" — telephone which really talks (around £12, as part of a telephone table), "roller blade" skates (around £10.50), and her own hair styling gel, which comes with "Ultra Hair Barbie", whose tresses go down to her toes.

Whatever recessionary terrors strike toytown, Barbie, who is slightly older than the Princess of Wales, looks in no danger of toppling from her pedestal as one of the highest — if not the highest — earning playgirls of the Western world.

#### Blast off

**BLAST!** is a new, free newsletter for young asthmatics from the National Asthma Campaign. Sent to all secondary schools and available to individuals, the second issue includes a report on activity holidays for teenagers with asthma, a look at how the actor, Roger Lloyd Pack, came to terms with his asthma, and

the story of how Philip Schofield helped a 14-year-old fan through an attack. And some old wives' tales about asthma, like the one about exercise being bad for asthmatics, are debunked. For a copy write to: *Blast!*, Communications Department, National Asthma Campaign, Providence House, Providence Place, London N1 0NT.

#### Child's play

THE second, revised, edition of the *Postnatal Exercise Book*, by obstetric physiotherapist Margie Polden and Barbara Whiteford, is published on Thursday by Frances Lincoln. The £7.95 paperback, with photographs by Sandra Lousada, has been endorsed by a number of childbirth experts, including Sheila Kitzinger.

It concentrates on the six-week period immediately after the birth, suggesting gentle but essential exercises which can be done, even in bed. It also shows how to exercise with your baby.

#### Inimitable

"ADULT Imitation" toys, as they are known, now take up two pages in the latest *Argos* catalogue, testifying to the growing sophistication of this type of plaything.

Notable additions are a mini microwave oven (£19.99) by Berchot, complete with rotating turntable, an almost life-sized "Telefax" centre by Petite (with a "motorised push button paper feed", £14.75) and a miniature check-out till complete with state-of-the-art electronic scanner from Fisher Price (£21.99).

VICTORIA MCKEE

are not on the agenda, adding

bell 48, Greg Morgan, 47, and Mike Oxlade, 47. Knight

CAROL LEONARD

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# Putting the case for current affairs

Factual programming could soon lose its peak-time position on ITV. Roger Graef says advertisers and viewers will be up in arms about it

This week's expected appointment of Marcus Platin of London Weekend Television as ITV's network scheduler will end the state of suspended animation that has blighted the independent sector. But he must be careful how he deals with the row that has been going on all summer about the threat to marginalise current affairs on ITV.

Mr Platin's handling of current affairs will be a crucial indication of the kind of programming likely to appear on ITV in the coming years: he, like Paul Jackson, director of programmes at Carlton, is an entertainment man.

Although Mr Jackson is a distinguished producer of innovative comedy for cult viewers on BBC2 and Channel 4, he seems to have gone native in his new job in pursuit of mass audiences.

Earlier this year, he served notice on the industry — and viewers — with his warning that *World in Action* and *This Week* would have to pull at least eight million viewers in order to stay in prime time. When Andrew Quinn became ITV chief executive, he reinforced that view.

Their position, not unexpectedly, has been widely criticised by current affairs programme-makers and their admirers, who see this as exactly the deterioration in quality television they expected. Moreover, they point to the growth of audiences for both *WIA* and *This Week* to the point where the former drew more than ten million three times last year, while *This Week* averages seven million. Even by the Jackson-Quinn criteria, these are serious players in the ratings game.

Both Ray Fenech, editor of *WIA* and Paul Woolwich, editor of *This Week*, argue that ITV is narrowing its prime time output dangerously, and should be able to take risks with what amounts to 4 per cent of its air-time. Jackson's

reply (at the Edinburgh television festival) was revealing: he warned that ITV profit margins are likely to be so close that 4 per cent could make all the difference.

But in its panic about its future survival, ITV may be in danger of doing exactly the wrong thing in devaluing current affairs and documentaries. "The only people I hear talk about millions of viewers are programme makers," says Brian Jacobs of Leo Burnett, the advertising agency. "Advertisers are far more concerned with the quality and composition of the audience than with its size."

John Perriss, whose clients include the food giants Kraft and Mars, feels that a shrewd advertiser is more likely to use Channel 4 as its main investment — now that 84 per cent of viewers watch it at some time or another in the week — some slots on breakfast television, and BSkyB, whose five "themed" channels offer targeted audiences and whose share is creeping up. They would only turn to ITV to top up the package in those regions where a boost is needed.

This is significantly bad news for ITV, whose financial prospects in coming years remain worrying. But their answer — to replace peak-time current affairs and documentaries with more "popular" fare — flies in the face of their



Hard news: American mafia boss John Gotti (left) caught in the *This Week* spotlight

own best interests. Messrs Perriss and Jacobs argue that only by offering a rich and varied menu of programming — at prime time — can they expect to offer serious competition to Channel 4 and BSkyB.

Currently the mid-break slot of *News at Ten* is among the most valued on television, not because of the size of the audience, but because of the high number of ABCI viewers. Pushing the news and current affairs to later in the evening would weaken their strength and, on current performance, no film or drama is as certain to offer comparable numbers of high-quality viewers, even if the total viewership is larger.

This is the second and still more basic weakness of the Quinn-Jackson thesis. Audiences like factual programmes. Analysis of the Barb figures (see table below) for the different genres of programmes on ITV — and on other channels — show a strong preference for and appreciation of factual programmes. Their combined share of viewing outstrips even the demand for soaps.

Across all channels, their share of ABCI viewers is also higher, although ITV's audiences remain skewed by older and downmarket viewers, a problem they will not solve by simply "popularising" their peak-time schedule.

Factual programming includes far more than current affairs and documentaries. The hugely popular "infotainment" shows, such as the BBC's 999 and *Crimewatch* draw on cinema vérité and current affairs techniques. It also delivers its audiences far more cheaply than drama, or most light entertainment. For example, 999 draws ten million viewers. *Crimewatch* has even higher ratings, and has been joined by *Crime Monthly* on ITV.

But offering entertainment packaged as information or vice versa is not enough to satisfy viewers or advertisers. If television's new age is to give viewers what they want, attention must be paid to the evidence from Professor Andrew Ehrenburg of the London Business School that at least a third of the television audience chooses to watch "difficult" material.

And it is this act of choice for individual programmes that will be the viewing pattern of the future. Branding ITV as a channel of safe, popular entertainment will not in itself guarantee viewers.

The Times goes electronic page 11

Glenwyn Benson, editor of *Panorama*, fears the end to competition that ITV's action might bring

At the Edinburgh television festival, Michael Grade said that the BBC keeps us all honest. But in the history of British current affairs television, it was the stiff competition from ITV's *World in Action*, *This Week* and *Weekend World* that kept *Panorama* honest.

Now, with the demise of prime time current affairs seemingly imminent on ITV, *Panorama* is likely to be the only such show on a general channel, scheduled at a time when a broad swath of the population is watching television. Bereft of direct competition, *Panorama* will face the same danger as any protected body: how does it keep itself beholden to the viewer, and avoid sliding into a comfortable existence driven by its own producer interests?

Britain's current affairs television achieved its worldwide reputation through special conditions, when the Reithian philosophy of the BBC — buttressing low audience but worthy shows such as *Panorama* with popular ones — was mirrored by an ITV bound by stronger public service obligations than it is now. ITV's innovation and challenge meant *Panorama* had to work hard to keep up, and viewers went in a choice of excellence on both channels.

The pressure to chase ratings in ITV has already taken its toll, epitomised on the day after the French referendum on Maastricht. *Panorama* tackled the implications of the result, while *World in Action* had a programme about David Sullivan, owner of the *Sunday Sport*.

But the attempts to attract more viewers have been to no avail: in a recent article in the *Guardian*, Paul Jackson, Carlton's director of programmes, made it clear that ITV can no longer tolerate a situation where the audience built up by *The Bill* is reduced by 50 per cent by the arrival of *This Week* at 8.30pm. To ITV the hours of 6.30pm to 10.30pm are strictly about ratings. The expectation is that

anyone who wants to watch current affairs on ITV will have to wait until 10.40pm.

By contrast, the commitment to keep *Panorama* in its prime-time slot has become almost a definition of the BBC's philosophy of "distinctiveness": the Big Idea that replace Reithianism. Before we see the full text of the BBC's response to the long-awaited green paper on its future, no one quite knows what distinctive means in programming terms, but in news and current affairs it has already arrived. The BBC already invests far more in the news than ITV does, editorially it deliberately pitches all its journalism upmarket of ITV, and it has promised to keep *Panorama* nailed to the mast of prime time. It is my view that the BBC could underscore its distinctiveness by adding new and different current affairs to its prime-time schedule.

But comfortable though this

**ITV's innovation and challenge meant that *Panorama* had to work hard to keep up**

may be for those who work on *Panorama*, how are we to be kept as honest as we were by ITV? It is a question of interest to the viewers who will soon inhabit a world of subscription and multi-channel television where the BBC, according to the recent leak in *Broadcast* magazine, does not think it can hold on to more than 30 per cent of the audience overall, and yet will be asking all viewers to pay a licence to support it.

Ironically, the possibility emerges that new competition could emerge for sound commercial reasons. Outside prime time, serious current affairs can perform a useful function for advertisers. In the

late evening, the audience has a high concentration of ABs, who are prepared to watch serious stuff before going to bed. The audience for *Panorama*, at 9.30pm, contains a much higher percentage of ABs than *World in Action*, at 8pm, or *This Week*.

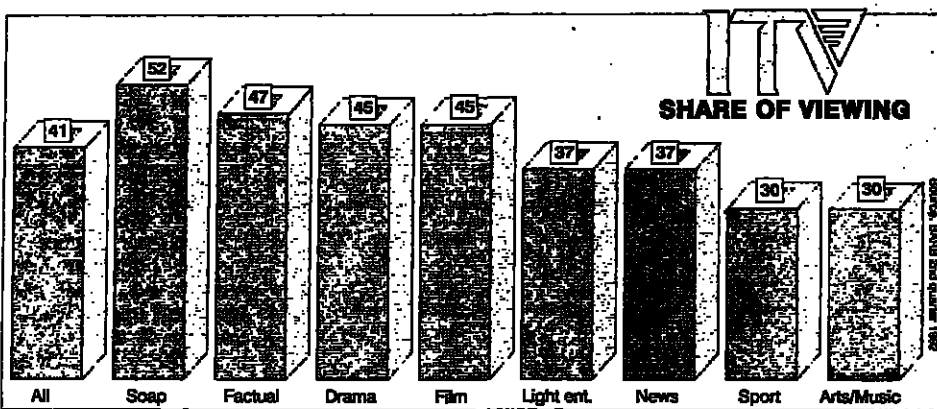
But if their main attraction to advertisers was the AB nature of the audience, ITV's current affairs shows need not fight shy of, for example, the row over Europe in favour of Mr Sullivan. And if they decided to return to the old benchmark of quality, *Panorama* would be forced to show that the quality it laid claim to was truly distinctive: its journalism would have to be more definitive and its presentation more accessible than that of its rivals.

One of the most frequent charges aimed at *Panorama* is that it pulls its punches, that it has been "tamed". However many times this is refuted by the BBC, by quoting examples of hard-hitting shows such as the recent *Panorama* on alleged British army involvement in UDA death squads, the charge is repeated and public concern builds up. How can consumers be reassured?

The BBC says it intends to reform its accountability, by codifying the responsibility and role of the board of management and the governors, and enabling the governors to monitor whether programmes are fulfilling their editorial purpose. But other voices in the green paper debate say the public can only be guaranteed independent judgment through a completely arm's-length regulator, closer to the model of Ofcom, which would be able to investigate charges such as "taming".

Whichever model the government goes for, programme makers might not be too happy at being at the mercy of a watchdog with sharp teeth. But if you want the nation to keep its eye on you, you have to let it do so.

Next week: the views of Paul Woolwich, editor of ITV's *This Week*.



Soaps lead ITV's share of the television audience, but factual programming is a close second

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As the polytechnics become accustomed to their new status, John O'Leary forecasts new pressures in the academic world

**T**he class of '92 will be pioneers in a brave new world of higher education. The university system has altered beyond recognition since this year's intake applied for places.

Times have been changing in higher education for a number of years, and students have filled campuses as never before. The polytechnics led the way, competing with one another for growth and finally drawing the universities into the process.

Now that the polytechnics have been given the reward of university status, hierarchies are being redrawn. Teaching methods are being updated and improved to cater for the extra students, course structures are changing and old certainties about university life are disappearing.

On many, perhaps most, campuses the student experience of the 1990s bears little resemblance to that of previous decades. Lectures are often crowded, seminars are larger and individual tutorials are rare. The personal touch, which has always characterised British university life, is being sacrificed to the pressing need to give more people higher education.

John Patten, the education secretary, acknowledged the dangers in a speech at the

inauguration of Portsmouth University this summer, but insisted that Britain is still "light years away" from the impersonal style of Continental universities. Overseas students still marvel, he said, at the amount of contact they have with professors and senior staff when they take British courses.

Lecturers and students' unions have yet to be convinced, but they recognise that the changes are permanent. The era of high-technology teaching and crowded timetables is upon them.

Nor are the changes all bad news. As well as offering more people the chance of higher education, the expansion has focused much-needed attention on teaching methods and encouraged more variety in the range of courses on offer.

Degree classifications have actually risen, to the point at which Nigel Forman, the higher education minister, felt moved to warn polytechnic directors, at their final conference in Edinburgh this month, to beware the sort of controversy that has engulfed schools.

"The higher education



Studying the form: computer sciences at the new University of Westminster, which was formerly a polytechnic

world would be very short-sighted", he said, "if it did not look across at the public debate on GCSEs and A levels, and see the warning of what can happen if doubts arise about educational standards. Indeed, in some respects the higher education world is particularly at risk from such

criticism, since the available data suggests both a dramatic rise in student numbers and rising proportions of first-class and upper second-class degrees."

The universities, both new and old, are collaborating in a new system of quality assurance to calm such fears. The

new funding councils, which will allocate higher education budgets, are also monitoring the quality of courses, with the aid of people who have transferred from Her Majesty's Inspectorate. Although the independent scrutiny of the inspectors and the Council for National Academic Awards

will be lost, the traditional universities will never have experienced such attention.

The new scrutineers will have a wide brief, because the expansion of the university system has brought with it new kinds of course. Not only have distance education and part-time courses increased greatly,

but university education now also encompasses diplomas and certificates as well as degrees. Seven of the new universities have even been licensed by the Business and Technology Education Council to run their own sub-degree programmes without having to seek national approval.

**S**uch initiatives are exactly what the government is seeking, by encouraging greater diversity in the revamped university system. Any notion that universities would all be equal once the old distinctions had been abolished could not be more wrong. Some of the old universities are facing the loss of their treasured research role, and several former polytechnics are hoping to establish themselves high up in the pecking order of primarily teaching institutions.

The beginnings of this shift were seen in this year's funding allocations for universities. In a deliberate attempt to steer institutions towards their strengths, Oxford and Cambridge were given almost 20 per cent more money for research, but received less in

real terms for teaching. Keele, at the other extreme, had its teaching budget increased by a third, but was given only 2.5 per cent more for research.

Mr Forman, in his Edinburgh speech, spelt out the specialisation message once more. "I am not saying that there should be no competition at all between universities," he said. "That would not be a healthy market for students. What I am suggesting is that there is little to be gained by institutions trying to compete in everything."

But there can be no certainty about the pay disputes that are looming throughout higher education. Clerical workers in the new universities and lecturers in both kinds of institution are threatening action over deadlocked pay claims. The class of '92 may have an early introduction to the practical side of industrial relations.

There may be trouble ahead, too, in student unions, if the government carries out its policy of making membership voluntary. Proposals are due before the end of the academic year, and the threat to both the national and local unions is such that stern resistance must be a certainty.

Life in the new higher education world is going to be different, but it should not be dull.

## Managing time is a key skill



Hats off to high fashion at Westminster University

**T**here are many conflicting demands on an undergraduate's time. Hobbies, societies, socialising — and for those in self-catering accommodation, shopping and cooking — all compete with academic work. Becoming a student offers the greatest opportunity to make new friends, and they are around 24 hours a day. All this comes as students become responsible for planning their time themselves, in most cases for the first time.

Life suddenly changes. Students are responsible for their own learning, and can take a considerable time to adjust when they find that nobody is chasing them for absence or work not delivered.

In some establishments, arts lectures are almost entirely voluntary. Some students go to only three or four a week.

Seminars and tutorials, on the other hand, are compulsory, and many students underestimate the time needed to read and prepare for discussion of topics in small groups. Science students, by contrast, may feel overwhelmed by a heavy timetable of lectures and practical classes, and suffer different pressures.

Time management comes more easily to some than others. Many students find difficulty in coming to terms with new study methods. Many are embarrassed to ask lecturers for help. To counter this problem, some institutions run classes in study skills.

Anne Wyatt, the study skills counsellor at Exeter University, offers personal tuition. "I do not believe in groups," Mrs Wyatt says. "Each student has individual problems." She stresses that the majority make the adjustment, but that for those who do not even a few sessions can be beneficial.

In addition to skills — helping students to see where an essay has gone wrong, for instance, or how to take notes — she deals with time management itself: "I can help

them to arrive at an effective balance between work and leisure. They have to sort out the demands of a course realistically, and learn that when a lecturer says, 'You might like to follow this up', that does not mean 'Read every book on the list'. I see as many students who are working too hard as are doing too little."

Everybody needs to relax. One way of spending leisure time is in student clubs and societies, which are often subsidised by the students' union, and have annual subscriptions of £3 to £5. Most institutions offer freshers a good variety, ranging from sporting to political, from religious to creative. Sheffield University lists more than 150. Sussex has a Green Society, paragliding, women's soccer and cognetics.

Societies can be time-consuming, however, and many students advise neophytes not to succumb to too many representations at the freshers' fair. It is preferable to sign up for one or two only, as it is always possible to join others later.

Societies and clubs can have hidden benefits. Eric Whittington, the careers adviser at the City of London Polytechnic, soon to have the title of university, points out that membership of one or two can be a help when compiling a CV in the final year.

"Any student whose career ideas lean towards the media can, for instance, gain valuable experience by working on the campus radio or magazine. I often say to would-be journalists, 'What experience have you had?', and they look at me blankly. If the college does not have such things, why not try hospital radio?"

"It is not just writing or on-air experience that can be useful. Selling advertising space for the union handbook or making contact with outside organisations can help you convince a future employer of your potential."

BERYL DIXON

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Only one application may be made each year, and the closing date is July 31. This year's freshers should apply earlier in the year and let the money earn interest. Why not take advantage of a sum that could be sitting in a savings account?

# No need to starve if you watch the pennies

Margaret Winnett, the mother of two student sons, offers the following advice to parents: "It was reassuring for

stampers, addressed envelopes, in the hope that they might use them. Our requests to phone home, though, had less success than those to ET."

Policy costs vary according to the area and type of accommodation. Companies assess risk using postcodes. Unfortunately, students in flats and houses often live in high-risk

**Students soon learn to economise by buying second-hand books and clothes and making use of student discounts**

Helen Gurnn, a first-year student at University College, Aberystwyth, had a total income, including her grant, her parents' contribution and her part-time earnings, of £2,600. She had expenditure of £1,200 on accommodation in college, where no meals were provided; £700 on food; and £120 on books. She had three return journeys between home and university, which cost her £90, but did not need to spend anything on daily travel to and from her college. Social travel

Andrew Clarke was in his third year last year at Bristol University. His total income, which came from the same three sources as Miss Gumm's, was £4,025. He spent £1,430 on renting a room in a shared house for 52 weeks; £1,000 on food and housekeeping; £240 on electricity, the telephone and water; and £20 on books. He, too, had three return journeys between home and university, which cost £30, and spent nothing on daily travel. Social travel came to £50, entertainment and miscellaneous outlays to £900, and clothes £200. His total expenditure was £3,870.

Polly Mason was a second-year student at Breton Hall College, Wakefield. She had a total income of £2,874, again from the same three sources. She spent £864 on rent, and £132 on additional rent as a retainer for the summer vacation. Gas, electricity and the telephone cost £200; food £600; and books £50. She spent £340 on petrol, £344 on car tax, insurance, and an MOT test. Entertainment and miscellaneous outlays came to £290, and clothes cost £10. Her total expenditure was £2,870.

It is immediately apparent that a student has more chance of keeping his or her head above water financially if no return daily journeys are necessary between accommodation and college. Furthermore, none of the three was living in London, where costs are higher.

Miss Mason, whose terms lasted 34 weeks in all, rather than the usual 30, says: "I am surprised at how well I've managed to survive financially, but I thank my lucky stars that the cost of living is so low in Wakefield."

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## Eat cheaply but eat well

**Learning to cook  
even simple  
meals is a vital  
skill when  
money is tight**

**H**ealth education has made young people more aware of what constitutes a healthy diet than the older generation, *Beryl Dixon* writes. However, faced with limited resources and frequently giving food a low priority, they are liable to fall into the trap of surviving on a mixture of junk and fast food — unless they can cook.

Students are not going to go in for elaborate and time-consuming recipes. Nor will they have vast amounts of cooking equipment. Storage space may be at a premium, and they may be fighting for their turn to use communal cookers. What they need, therefore, is some simple knowledge of cookery and a selection of nutritious recipes that can be prepared with the minimum of fuss.

Meals can be prepared quickly, and although it is often cheaper to use fresh ingredients, tins and packets should not be despised. Anyone with two saucepans and a can-opener can rustle up a nutritious meal from a tin of tuna, canned tomatoes, herbs and pasta in 15 minutes.

**Kitchen wisdom: Polly (left) and Tamsin Mason seek out end-of-day bargains**

jacket potatoes, if time permits or the hall kitchen has a microwave. Many students say that their best going-away present was an electric sandwich-maker, which provides a filling snack in minutes.

Many house-sharing students cook together, which means that they can take full advantage of bulk buying. Tamsin Mason, a third-year student at King Alfred College, shares a house in Winchester, where living expenses are quite high. She and her friends have their own ways of making ends meet. They make bulk purchases of supermarkets' own-brand goods and buy fresh produce as often as possible, having learnt to negotiate the open-air market

towards the end of the day when traders reduce prices sharply. Moreover, Miss Mason is a vegetarian, and maintains that this helps. "You can cook a cheap veggie chilli in 15 minutes," she says.

Students who already know how to cook have a head start. Some are lucky enough to have learnt at home or to have attended a school—which taught them—such as Mading Boys' School in Stroud, where sixth-formers may sign up for an optional course in cookery taught by Olivia Watson, a science teacher. "We start with basics such as cooking methods and buying ingredients," she says, "then do simple recipes, moving on to main dishes. I aim to

teach them to cook a decent meal at half the cost of buying one, and to be able to prepare food in even the most cramped kitchen."

Is it too late for all that? There are two excellent books which could make good Christmas presents. A generation learned to cook in the 1960s from Katharine Whitehorn's *Cooking in a Bedsitter* (\$9.95), available, Penguin, (E. J. Soll).

More recent on the scene is *Grub on a Budget* by Cas Clarke (Headline Publishing, also \$4.99). Neither assumes any previous knowledge. Both contain quick, healthy and cheap recipes, plus lists of essential store cupboard ingredients and necessary utensils.



# Views beyond the ivory tower

New students should not forget to explore the region beyond the campus, writes Colin Colebrook

Eight fit young men lean over their oars in their sleek craft, psyching themselves up as the sun glimmers on the gently rippling water separating them from the rival craft. The diminutive cox calls them to order. The gun fires and they're off, speeding away from the start urged on by crowds in carnival mood lining the banks.

Barcelona Olympics? Henley Regatta? No, Salford. That "dirty old town" in the north, where the Northern University Boat Race between Salford and Manchester, sponsored by leading local companies, takes place each year on the River Irwell — which was once heavily polluted but has long since been cleaned up by local and river authorities.

Back on the university campus, groups of people are standing around a windswept car park wearing multi-coloured plastic ribbons tied around their arms and performing strange manoeuvres with a plastic bucket, some planks and a piece of rope.

They are hospital workers, and they are learning how to improve the profitability of their organisation. The bucket and plank operations — involving several different tasks — are a means of improving teamwork, explains the course

consultant, Ernest Taylor, who also conducts more conventional lectures on the subject.

While the health workers are untangling their rope from the bucket, students are preparing their community effort: teaching English to local Asians and direct aid in practical projects for people in need.

These are just some of the many ways in which town and gown are co-operating up and down the country, to their mutual benefit.

Universities, polytechnics and colleges have always enjoyed something of a love/hate relationship with the towns that are their hosts. Many of the older redbrick city universities were the product of civic pride and dignity, established by local corporations and industrialists to enhance the status and image of their regions, as well as to provide educated young people for local businesses, professions and industries.

From that state of grace and love, the relationship sank to perhaps its lowest point in the 1950s and 1960s — decades marked by demonstrations, protests and the emergence of drugs and free love. Now the

relationship is settling down to something that is neither hate nor love, but a good working partnership encouraged by the growing interplay between colleges and business. This means that students can gain from the best elements of their surrounding community, and the community in turn reaps the benefit of a range of educational, research, artistic and community activities.

Students are, of course, most concerned with what they can get out of the area they are studying in and how they will be received there, and of course this is as varied as the many colleges and universities around the country.

As I work in Salford, live in Manchester and went to university in Leeds, I am naturally inclined to believe the warmest personal reception from local people is to be found by students in the north of England, but no doubt others would make similar claims for their own regions.

Campuses can be located anywhere, from the heart of our major towns and cities to purpose-built park locations in

the open countryside. Students now starting at big city universities and colleges can enjoy the bright lights and sophisticated attractions on offer. In Manchester and Salford, ravers can head for the Hacienda nightclub after buying their gear in Affleck's Palace or acquiring some underground House tapes and records at Eastern Bloc.

Country locations do not offer the bright lights, but mostly provide far more in the way of sport on the doorstep. Essex University, near Colchester, for example, has some 40 acres dedicated to the activities of its 40 sports clubs on its Wivenhoe Park campus.

Location played a great part in the university career of Michael Shaw, a windsurfing enthusiast who chose Plymouth for his maritime business studies. Not only did he end up with an honours degree, but the university, set in the old maritime city, sponsored him to compete in the World Speedsailing Championships in Spain, the Canaries and the south of France.

Watersports enthusiasts are also well catered for at Bangor, where the University College

of North Wales is to be found just four miles from the National Watersports Centre. Climbers there can head for Snowdonia National Park.

Freshers at Leeds may prefer to go down rather than up, as the Yorkshire Dales and their challenging potholes are just a short journey away.

Cultural and musical activities provide a focus for town and gown relations, with many universities and colleges staging top-level concerts and recitals open to members of the local community as well as to staff and students.

Rag weeks provide not only a chance for students to party and let off steam in a variety of zany and colourful ways, but cash for local charities, and many journalists have cut their teeth on rag mags, as well as student papers.

At Salford, the town-gown relationship is best epitomised when staff, students and locals meet over a pint at the Wall-mess Tavern pub, which is run by a student union company and partly staffed by students, but open to the public.

Whether in sports, the arts, community care and education, or just having a good time, the town and gown relationship is in a healthy state, and offers rich rewards to those adventurous enough to seek the best of both worlds.



Off campus: students from University College, Salford, making music in a local club



Dr Michael Burton counselling starts with self-help

## Help is at hand if you need it

Starting out at university is a chance to find yourself and make friends

For many students, leaving home to begin a new life and take care of themselves in a new environment is the biggest transition they have had to make. Beryl Dixon writes. It would be pessimistic to assume that all freshers will experience difficulties, but every year many do encounter problems settling in.

Some need no more help than that available from friends. Chats over coffee, discovering that other people also feel slightly insecure, can do wonders for one's morale. Others need more professional assistance, and fortunately it is available, free of charge and in complete confidence, at most institutions.

Next week's freshers may scoff, but by far the most common complaint is homesickness. "It is the most common reason given for visiting our counsellors," says Sean Figgis, of Humberstone University. Dr Michael Burton, the head of Sussex University's counselling service, says: "We make a point in our introductory talks of emphasising just how disabling homesickness can be."

Homesickness usually wears off with time, and there are some simple tips that students can bear in mind to help to alleviate it. "Take photographs of family and friends with you, and other things that remind you of home," says Tamsin Mason, a third-year drama student. "I took lots of posters for the wall. I also had a nice, cheerful bedspread for my birthday. One year I used it as a bedspread; another time it brightened up a dull wall."

After homesickness, finance is the main worry, according to Mr Figgis. "Money worries are on the increase. Often the problem is not as bad as the student thinks. We operate a revenue advice service where staff can often find a solution by pointing students towards advice on funding. Next come difficulties with accommodation, which, if left too late, can lead to emotional problems."

Dr Burton agrees. "Some people find the whole transition, and finding a new role for themselves, just too much. There is no doubt, though, that this is exacerbated by the problem of being hard up," he says.

Anne Wyatt, Exeter University's study skills adviser, finds that those who come for help

include undergraduates reading a subject they have not studied at A level. This is a particularly vulnerable group, often wrongly convinced that they are not coping.

Sources of help are available at most colleges. The welfare section of the students' union will give advice on grants, loans, accommodation and legal matters, and can refer students to further sources.

Sussex University's counselling service has two full-time and four part-time counsellors, all trained in counselling or psychotherapy, and 18 trained volunteers.

New students are made aware of the service in the university handbook and during induction meetings, when one of the team gives a brief talk.

"We are in the business of health," Dr Burton says, "and we put great emphasis on self-help and knowing when to consult a professional. We also run workshops in stress management, assertion, relaxation and study skills."

An innovation of which Dr Burton is particularly proud is training second-year and third-year volunteers to act as residential advisers, to welcome newcomers, offer advice and refer them on whenever necessary. "They are a very potent source of referral," he says.

Other sources of help at most institutions are personal tutors, who are members of the academic staff, chaplains of all denominations, and doctors and nurses, who are invariably good listeners.

Provision of medical care does vary. Some colleges merely advise students to register with a local doctor. Some have regular clinics staffed by nursing officers, while others have an arrangement with a local general practice that holds surgeries on campus.

Some institutions charge students for some of the services, typically those not available on the NHS, or for time spent in sick beds. At Liverpool University, however, full-time nurses run a free 16-bed sick bay for students needing continuous care, and doctors hold daily surgeries in term time. Students may register with one of the university doctors or another of their choice.

Records will be forwarded from students' family doctors, but during vacations they may still consult them as temporary residents.

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# MANAGEMENT

## The forgotten children

Special funds to care for young refugees are lacking, writes Nicky Willmore

Publicans and retired headmasters crossing Europe in their well-meaning way to save children from the former Yugoslavia have given local authorities an attack of the jitters. At worst, councils fear a repeat of summer 1990, when the unexpected arrival in London of 200 unaccompanied Eritrean children exposed for the first time a yawning gap in official policy.

Many councils could not cope. All still say the absence of policy and resources compromises their ability to comply with both UK law and United Nations conventions in caring for refugee children.

Immigration records suggest about 250 unaccompanied refugee children are in the UK today, mostly from the Horn of Africa. The numbers are minute but the needs of the children who make it to the UK alone are specific and expensive.

The children are confused when they have their first brush with immigration officials. "Many have had traumatic experiences involving seeing relatives killed or tortured or have themselves experienced abuse," says Terry Bamford, the social services director at Kensington and Chelsea in west London. "The care provided must take account of these experiences as well as their health, cultural, religious and linguistic needs."

Hillingdon, home to Heathrow and responsible as the "parish of origin" for many unaccompanied children arriving, has provided services to 111 refugee children in the past two years and has 36 on its books now. The annual bill is £995,810, the amount by which the council's budget exceeded its statutory limit this year.



Looking lost in a foreign land: children who have fled from Somalia share a room in Haringey, north London

Kensington and Chelsea, on a direct tube line from Heathrow, puts the cost of caring for 28 Eritrean children at £500,000, and Haringey estimates care and support costs are £40,000 per child. Yet despite a protracted and united campaign, the 25 London authorities and a few shire counties that care for refugee children have failed to convince the government of the need for a specific grant.

Although few shirk their responsibilities, none can provide care lightly. Disputes between councils about who is immediately responsible for specific children have occasionally ended in the courts, as in the case of the London boroughs of Islington and Hounslow. One child flew four times between London and Northern Ireland before a decision was made.

In addition, government guidance on policy and best practice has been two years in the drafting and is still not published. Ros Finlay, the Refugee Council's social services adviser, says this has delayed improvements to the limited range of skills, knowledge and resources available for the children's care needs.

The Refugee Council has persistently argued that a central project is vital to complement the work of councils. "A prime task of the project would be to strengthen existing refugee community groups, who are best placed to

care for the children, as well as their links with local authorities," Ms Finlay says. The project would prevent a repeat of the swamping of resources by the influx of Eritrean children and would solve councils' everyday difficulties in establishing links with community groups.

These difficulties, particularly acute if there is no established refugee community in the area, means children often receive inadequate care. Mike Taylor, Hillingdon's social services director, admits to temporary anomalies — for example, where a Tamil child is cared for by a Somali adult, or where Ethiopian children live alongside Eritreans.

Of 242 children surveyed by the Refugee Council, 70 had to wait up to three months before a local authority responded and at least 50 were moved more than three times

in their first three months. At least 50 children were placed where they had no contact with people from their cultural or linguistic background, jeopardising their ability to take a place in their community in the UK or at home and the effectiveness of any eventual family reunion.

Brian Jones, the social services assistant secretary at the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, says: "Today's ease of transport and communications means that the problem of unaccompanied children arriving here as refugees will not go away."

Mr Taylor says he cannot spend £1 million a year on refugee children without hurting other services. "Other than the odd expression of concern that child refugees are being brought in, the silence of government departments on this is deafening," he says.

## Good charities begin with training

Who controls Britain's 180,000 charities? And is this done effectively? The question is worth asking — and as a matter of urgency — because the voluntary sector is playing an ever more critical role in society.

During the 1960s, many people believed that charities would become marginal, even irrelevant, by provision of state services. Instead, the opposite has happened: there has been an ideological shift away from state intervention.

The resources charities control are greater than most people realise. The turnover of the voluntary sector is at present £17 billion, which is 3 per cent of the gross national product and more than the turnover of the agricultural sector.

In law, the charities are controlled by the million or so people who serve as voluntary trustees; yet there is evidence that they lack the training and preparation to carry out their responsibilities effectively.

According to today's report by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, two-thirds of all trustees in England and Wales are unaware that they are trustees at all; only between a third and a half of them receive information about their organisation's role and their responsibilities as trustees; only a fifth receive proper induction to charity work; and less than a sixth are given training directly related to their work.

The dangers of letting this continue are considerable. Crises in the voluntary sector, such as the recent bankruptcy of War on Want, bring the governance of charities increasingly into the public eye.

As in the private sector, the changing relationship between a charity's executive managers and the board is a key. Large and medium-sized charities have always relied on paid staff, but during the past decade

that trustees can be hoodwinked, or that some professional managers are accused of "capturing" organisations they are paid to manage. The solution is fairly clear. In the face of such professionalism, trustees need to know their legal and managerial responsibilities vis-à-vis the paid staff. Interference by the trustees with day-to-day operations or, on the other hand an abdication of responsibility can undermine the running of any charity.

Training in the widest sense — including all forms of advice and support — is needed if trustees are to retain control of an organisation's affairs. If they do not keep abreast of the new managerial ethos and supervise the work of paid staff, the mission of the organisation can be all too easily subverted.

A final point is worth making. The report suggests that trusteeship is, in the main, a middle-class preserve. But for a much wider section of the population, trusteeship may be an important form of active citizenship. Training should take account of this and help to increase the pool of talent available to charities, giving genuinely equal opportunities.

These managers are responsible for large budgets, sometimes more than £50 million annually. They speak the language of the business school and have their own career agendas. Yet they are accountable to part-time unpaid trustees with widely varying abilities and little or no preparation for the work. Small wonder

managerialism has penetrated the sector.

The author is the chairman of the Royal National Institute for the Deaf and the working party responsible for the report, "On Trust: Increasing the Effectiveness of Charity Trustees and Management Committees", published today by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, Regent's Wharf, 8 All Saints Street, London N1 9RL, at £8.95, including postage and packing.



Charity trustees know too little about their job, says Winifred Tumim

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#### THE TIMES

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## Don't tell the town hall

Councils must not use the new local tax to pry into personal affairs or to ask for irrelevant information

Data protection laws had been on the statute book for half a decade before the community charge, better known as poll tax, forced their first test in the courts. Now the arrival of the council tax has again raised the issue of what councils are entitled to know about their taxpayers.

Under the rates system, local authorities needed to know little more than the address of a property, the name of its occupier and its rateable value. Nobody dreamed of asking ratepayers personal questions, unless of course they applied for a rebate.

The poll tax, levied personally on 37 million adults in England alone, required councils to compile a computerised register of everybody aged over 18 in their areas.

For the first time, every adult had to provide personal details to the local council. Even before the first poll tax bills went out in March 1990, the Data Protection Registrar had warned councils about the questions they were asking.

Before the year was out, the Data Protection Tribunal had been convened for its first sitting to deal with the problems caused by the poll tax.

Council for the Data Protection Registrar told the hearing that more than a quarter of the 403 charging authorities in England had asked questions on subjects they were not entitled to know about.

By the time the case came to court in September, only 14 of the 140 councils had asked "irrelevant and excessive" by the tribunal remained obdurate. However, the damage had been done.

Public suspicions about the already unpopular poll tax registers were deepened by the disclosure that councils had been asking householders what type of home they occupied. Some had even asked about marital status.

The councils that asked about property type said they needed to know in order to discover which houses had been converted into flats. The tribunal disagreed, and ordered the information to be struck from the register.

Aware of the harm that had been done to the poll tax

by the keeping of registers, ministers hurried to assure the public that the new council tax, which comes into operation on April 1 next year, would require nothing of the kind.

Heated parliamentary exchanges followed, in which Labour MPs said that lists of those liable to pay the council tax and the collection of income details from those eligible for rebates would lead to the keeping of registers in all but name.

The Opposition complained that, far from clarifying the issue, the government's assertion that councils will not need to keep registers only clouded matters further.

The poll tax legislation gave a clear power to collect and hold certain types of information, but local authorities will have to rely on their general powers for collecting data about householders for the new council tax.

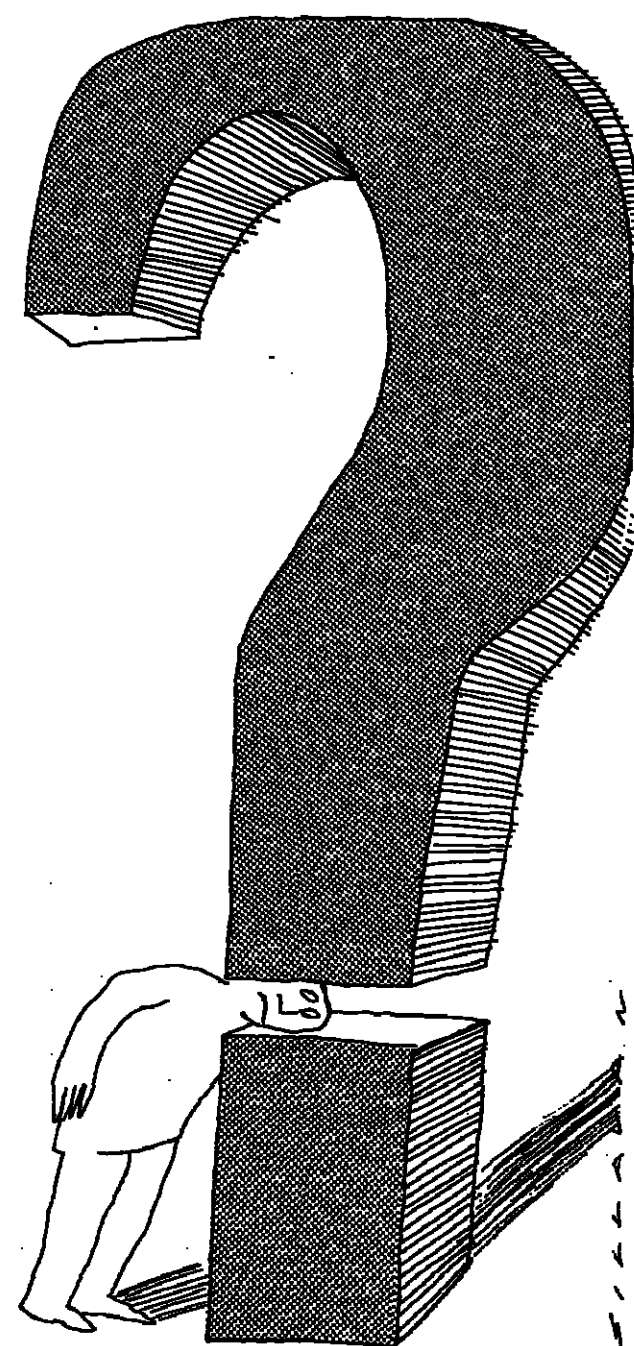
Least controversial will be the so-called banding lists. These will show which of the eight council tax bands each property has been placed in.

The lists have been drawn up by the Inland Revenue valuation office, and will be available for inspection at town halls around Christmas time. They show no more than the address of each property and the band to which it is allocated. Councils will need to add the name of the person liable to pay the tax, for bills can no longer legally be addressed to "the occupier".

Assessing who is the person liable may require some complex questioning, and discounts and rebates will demand the keeping of detailed information about income, disability and entitlement to state benefits.

Every person living alone will also have to be listed as such to enable computerised billing systems to award the automatic 25 per cent discount to which they are entitled.

Nick Platten, the compliance officer to the Data Protection Registrar, told a recent seminar that his office wants to "iron out problems in advance" by talking to councils. "The intention is that there will be no repeat of the prosecutions and legal notices



that came about with the introduction of the community charge," he said.

To avoid trouble, councils should bear several basic principles in mind. First, data should be obtained fairly and individuals should not be misled about the purpose of any question.

Second, data should be relevant and the amount of information sought should be adequate for the purpose but not excessive.

Finally, it should be accurate and up to date. Mr Platten added a warning to councils that they risk criminal prosecution if they do not add the administration of the new tax to their entries on the central

data protection register. He was upbeat about the risks of councils falling foul of the law again, but Jeff Pipe, the assistant city treasurer in Birmingham, offered a word of caution. Addressing the same gathering, Mr Pipe said the new tax would involve obtaining personal information about "a substantial proportion of the population".

He said that, although the council tax regulations give councils powers to use information already in their possession in administering the new tax, the law gives them "no blank cheque to ignore the Data Protection Act".

DOUGLAS BROOM



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# Who will the journalists blame now?

**Peter Brown**  
reflects on the  
end of one era  
and the start of  
another at  
the Times

For just over a week *The Times* has been type-set electronically. No human hand has come between mine and yours, as you hold this page, save those of the plate room hands and pressmen. The compositors have gone.

The compositors, or comps, were the people who for two centuries took the words of the *Times* journalists and turned them into pages. The type was set by hand (two centuries ago), or by Linotype machine (a century ago), or by computer (since 1982). Then the compositors corrected it, working with production journalists clashing red-inked proofs.

Now most journalists type their work into word processors, while others design pages on a screen, and all corrections are done by the same method. It is a streamlined system that would have rejoiced the heart of John Walter, who first published *The Daily Universal Register* in 1785, changing the name to *The Times* three years later. He started the paper partly to exploit the invention of a compositor, Henry Johnson, who believed that time and labour could be saved by printing several letters together instead of separately. The idea didn't work very well, and Walter began a famous tradition: he blamed the printers.

"I have been severely injured by the inattention, neglect and ignorance of others," he said, a cry that until last week could be heard nightly on the sub-editor's desks on *The Times*. Henceforth they must blame themselves.

*The Times* has always looked for more efficient production, a drive not always condoned by the compositors, who lost no time, for example, in lampooning John Walter and his "logographic type". They were a tough, well-



The new system: stories are typed in to word processors (left), while pages are designed on another screen. The two systems are merged, pictures and advertisements are inserted in an imaging unit, and the pages are proofed and corrected. The electronic library is the nerve centre of the operation. A laser scanner then converts the information into a negative the size of this page and from this an aluminium plate is made for the press.

organised bunch with a thousand internal rules. Benjamin Franklin had come up against them when he worked in London as a compositor in 1725. Refusing to pay a drinks levy, he had "many little pieces of private malice practised on me". What the other comps did to transcribe his letters while he wasn't looking, like this, indeed the scolding transposition of the word "Times" disputes. An oversight, the comps would say.

One of the better known oversights was the affair of Harcourt's speech in 1882. *The Times* compositors were in dispute with the management, and the gentlemen of London, in their clubs, were shocked to learn from the *Thames* that Lord Harcourt had told the House "he felt inclined for a bit of \*\*\*\*" (my asterisks). It lasted for one edition, and G. Price, the comp responsible, was sacked after an enquiry.

It would be wrong to suggest that *The Times* always regarded its compositors as untrustworthy. For much of its history, the reverse was true. "There is probably no industry in which the relationship be-

tween staffs and management is so satisfactory and amicable," said one authority in 1935. Barry Doyland, who was a comp in *The Times* "Companionship" in the 1950s, wrote: "We still considered ourselves an extension of the Astor family."

But anyone who types thousands of words an hour is bound to make mistakes. Now, as from last week, readers can be sure that their errors come fresh from the keyboard of a writer or sub-editor (the Editor, by tradition, never falters). Some, indeed, may be

mistakes that a sharp-eyed comp would have spotted — every sub-editor has been saved like that — and there are few on *The Times* who will not miss the humour and drama of the "stone". Not much fun shouting "Hold the front page" at a computer screen.

The stone really disappeared from *The Times* composition. It was originally just that, a slab of stone, and on the perfectly flat surface a million metal lines of type had been assembled and locked into place by stab hands (comps) at Printing

House Square, and then at Gray's Inn Road. The process was simple enough to make sense to any visitor who had played with a John Bull printing set. From the comp, nevertheless, it required dexterity, muscle and patience.

For the production journalist in the days of hot metal there was a sense of satisfaction in working with a good comp, in the ink, the and emotional heat of the composing room, and producing a corrected page by its deadline. A good comp never argued about correcting the same

paragraph a dozen times. He could tell at a glance where the next slug (line of type) should go, and how many things (slugs of lead) he needed to pack out a column, never- theless, it required dexterity, muscle and patience.

This symbiotic relationship was weakened by photo-composition. The first photo-setting machinery arrived in

1970 but it was not until May 3, 1982 that metal disappeared from the printing process. In came lasers and computers. Corrections were still done by comps and journalists working together, but now the comp used a scalpel to cut waxed bromide paper into shapes which were pasted together to form a page. John Bull had given way, as one depressed comp put it, to a child's jigsaw puzzle.

After the move to Wapping in 1986 journalists set and corrected the type, but comps (now, for the first time, sometimes female) were still needed to stick the corrections onto a page. These non-union comps lacked the old printing crafts but they quickly developed the skills they needed, working accurately under pressure, wielding scalpels at speed, never quite cutting off their fingers. And the companionship of the stone — as the composing room was still called — never died.

Until last week. On Friday, September 18, Tony Norbury, the paper's assistant editor (production), handed over the last bromide page, and on Sunday September 20 the paper was all-electronic (with

relatively few hiccups). For Norbury this was the fulfilment of a dream he had in the late 1970s, when he envisaged that journalists would one day control the written word in their own paper. "The technology has evolved over the last decade to enable this to happen," he says, "but after more than 30 years working in composing rooms I found it quite emotional. This was the end of a great era."

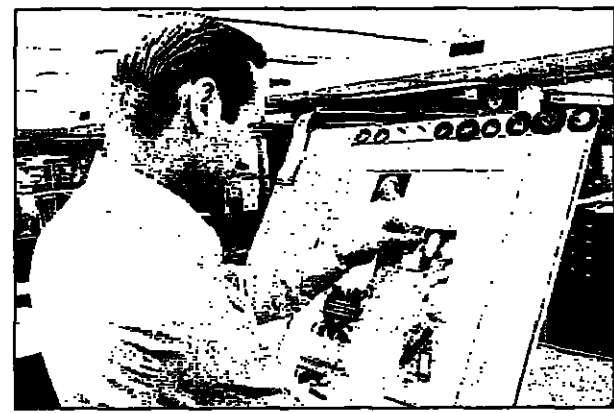
With that era died a language, a lexicon of devils, chapels, slugs and sticks, nomples, pies, quins and chaises, clackers and randoms, whackers and waygooses. In its place we have the doggles, log-ons, macros and acronyms of computerspeak.

Some old words remain, sops to the older hacks. There are still 72 "points" to the inch on the screens on which this page was designed. There is still "lead" below this line. But I sense that my screen would prefer to deal in centimetres. It certainly doesn't swear or joke and it doesn't put mistakes.

It's a good machine in its way, but some of us will miss the comps, damn them.   
The author is features production editor of *The Times*



Old tech: a "hot-metal" page assembled by compositors in 1973; and a "bromide" page being pasted up in 1984



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## BBC1

- 6.00 Cee-fax (56875) 6.30 Breakfast News (78480455)  
9.05 Perfect Strangers. American comedy series starring Mark Linn-Baker and Bronson Pinchot (5) (5681610)  
9.30 Labour Party Conference 92. Donald MacCormick, Vivian White and Iain MacWhirter present live coverage of the proceedings on the second day of the conference (51610)  
10.00 News, regional news and weather (146875) 10.05 Playdays (5) (5958113) 10.25 Jimbo and the Jet Set (5) (4149662)  
10.35 Labour Party Conference 92. Further live coverage. Includes News (Cee-fax) and weather at 11.00 and 12.00 (82774287) 12.55 Regional News and weather (16912946)  
1.00 One O'Clock News. (Cee-fax) Weather (15981)  
1.30 Neighbours. (Cee-fax) (43684097) 1.50 Going for Gold presented by Henry Kelly (5) (43684097)  
2.15 Mrs. Butler. Colin Firth and Harold Hopkins. Rough-and-tumble comedy about two Australian expatriates who find themselves having to do battle with a big mining company who want to take over their claim. Directed by Arch Nicholson (251392)  
3.50 Opposites Attract. Nature series presented by Derek Griffiths (5) (8503349) 4.00 Funnymen. A new cartoon series about three comical skeletons. With the voice of Griff Rhys Jones (5) (6078707) 4.05 Spaceways. The first of a new sci-fi comedy series (5497884) 4.20 The Chaperone. Cartoon (5) (551287) 4.35 Harbinger. Innovative ideas to better picture making. (Cee-fax) (5) (8282368)  
5.00 Newsround (3216788) 5.10 The Village by the Sea. Episode three of a six-part drama about life in an Indian fishing village. (Cee-fax) (3965320)  
5.35 Neighbours (5) (Cee-fax) (5) (707504)  
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Anna Ford. (Cee-fax) Weather (5) (5)  
6.30 Regional News Magazines (417). Northern Ireland: Neighbours 7.00 Telly Addicts. Television trivia quiz (5) (3184)  
7.30 Eastenders. (Cee-fax) (5) (829)  
8.00 Citizen Smith. Classic comedy from John Sullivan starring Robert Lindsay as Wolfe, Tooting's very own urban guerrilla, this week having to deal with a revolution when Speed makes a reappearance on his patch (5) (Cee-fax) (9504)  
8.30 2 Point 4 Children. Andrew Marshall's domestic comedy starring Belinda Lang and Gary Olsen. (Cee-fax) (5) (8639)  
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martin Lewis. (Cee-fax) Regional news and weather (8233)  
9.30 Cheviots. Hard-hitting drama by Lynda La Plante following the fortunes of a group of soldiers returning to civilian life. (Cee-fax) (5) (238184)  
10.25 Omnibus: The Piero Trail.  
● CHOICE: This fascinating documentary, marking the 500th anniversary of the death of Italy's Piero della Francesca, makes full use of computer technology to piece together a startling portrait of the elusive Renaissance painter. Directed supposedly by the son of a farmer, Piero somehow amassed the mathematical know-how of a learned gentleman. Thus a painting such as his The Flagellation of Christ can be constructed as a three-dimensional model following the artist's precise lines and logic. Professor B.A.R. Carter makes the most impact as he dissects still more paintings according to their geometrical substructures finding hidden symbols along the way, but there are also keen observations from experts and artists such as Sir John Pope-Hennessy and Tom Phillips. (Cee-fax) (551639) Wales: Sportsnight Wales 10.55 Omnibus



Gunfighter: John Wayne makes a parting shot (11.30pm)

- 11.30 Film: The Shootist (1976) starring John Wayne, in his last film, Lauren Bacall and James Stewart. A poignant western about a former gunfighter, now suffering from cancer, who wants to spend his last days in peace. Unfortunately he is a target for all the wrong guns who want to make a name for themselves. Directed by Don Siegel. (Cee-fax) (707707). Wales: 12.00-1.35 The Shootist 1.05am Weather (812610). Ends at 1.10  
2.15 BBC Select: Executive Business Club. Scrambled (153547). Ends at 3.15

## BBC2

- 8.00 Breakfast News (9710962)  
8.15 Writers' Houses. P.J. Kavanagh visits the Olney, Buckinghamshire, home of the 18th-century poet William Cowper (5) (6733813) 8.30 Play Better Golf. Peter Allis with advice on escaping from difficult lies (5) (10829)  
9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes  
2.00 News and weather (34778881) followed by You and Me (5) (40327504)  
2.15 Labour Party Conference 92. Coverage continues with John Smith's first address to Conference as leader of the party. Includes News (Cee-fax) and weather at 3.00 and 3.50 (55453675)  
5.30 Film 92 with Barry Norman. Includes reviews of Carry On Columbus, City of Joy and Bitter Moon. Plus a location report from Kenneth Branagh's third film as director, Peter's Friends (5) (894)  
6.00 Film: The Highwaymen (1973) starring Ingrid Bergman. The story of a brother and sister, bored with their suburban lifestyle who decide to decamp to New York where, in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, they become obsessed by a marble statue of an angel and decide to seek out the donor who turns out to be a rich, elderly recluse. Directed by Fielder Cook (52120078)  
7.45 Assignment: On Canada. On Quebec  
● CHOICE: The Montreal-born novelist Mordecai Richler reports on what he calls the "poor, totally unnecessary, tribal quarrel" between the French and English-speaking populations of Quebec, not to mention the Mohawks and Cree. As the author of *Oh Canada! Oh Quebec!* Richler for a *Divide Country*, a humorous book attacking Canadian separatism, you would expect him to have an eye for the absurd and he certainly makes the most of the peculiarities of the current language laws. Commercial placards and road signs are now in French by law. It is odd indeed to consider how in France the stop sign says "Stop!" while in Quebec they say "Arrêt!" Richler's viewpoint is unashamedly biased but not wholly flippant. Events in Yugoslavia have shown just how serious tribal quarrels can become. (643900)  
8.30 Floyed On Spain. Keith Floy concludes his gastronomic tour of Europe by sampling food in La Mancha and Madrid. (Cee-fax) (9581)  
9.00 The Mole. Whitehouse's experience. Off-beat comedy, a spin-off from the radio series. Starring David Baddiel, Hugh Dennis, Rob Newman and Steve Punt (5) (6875)



Death and the cartoonist: Gerald Scarfe fantasises (9.30pm)

- 9.30 Scarfe in Paradise.  
● CHOICE: The cynical cartoonist Gerald Scarfe is at his best in this quirky programme on death and what happens afterwards, a follow-up to his investigations on art and sex. The idea that absolutely nothing happens, is, of course, glossed over in order for Scarfe to explore more interesting options such as heaven, hell and reincarnation as well as copy-outs such as immortality or, failing that, body freezing. Although his report is peppered with entertaining fantasy sequences, there are also interviews with all manner of real people with very different but equally fervent views on what's going to befall them. Scarfe himself remains worried by his own uncertainty. Then again, if he really believed his fear that "hell is worse than anything we can imagine", he might not be able to get through life, let alone death. (Cee-fax) (580184)  
10.10 The Works: Inside the Box. Last in the series celebrating the importance of the box set. (Cee-fax) (52417)  
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow (875785)  
11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (5) (763900)  
11.55 Weather (57776)  
12.00 Open University: Motion — Newton's Laws (69092). Ends at 12.30am

## ITV

- 6.00 TV-am (5263875)  
9.25 Win, Lose or Draw. Celebrity game show hosted by Danny Baker (5687894) 9.55 Thames News (737523)  
10.00 The Time ... The Place ... Topical discussion series (7774558)  
10.40 This Morning. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes items on hair and beauty, family finance and women who thrive on challenge. Plus, at 11.00, another episode of the twice-weekly soap. With national and international news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 followed by national weather (5371655)  
12.10 ITV News Early Learning Series (5) (5471542)  
12.30 Lunchtime News (Orade) Weather (2448271) 1.05 Thames News (59761184)  
1.15 Home and Away. Australian family drama series. (Orade) (573875) 1.45 A Country Practice. Medical drama series set in the Australian outback. (5) (572146)  
2.15 Mavis Catches Up With ... Mavis Nicholson talks to comedienne Dawn French (597455) 2.45 Families. Soap linking the north of England with Australia (5) (5438769)  
3.10 Football. Live coverage of the UEFA cup first round, second leg match between Torpedo Moscow and Manchester United. The first leg at Old Trafford ended goalless (34492558)  
5.10 Blockbusters. General knowledge quiz game for teenagers, presented by Bob Henson (5520981)  
5.40 Early Evening News. (Orade) Weather (325621)  
6.00 Home and Away (5) (5) (233)  
6.30 Thames News (513)  
7.00 Emmerdale. Drama serial set in the Yorkshire Dales. (Orade) (8252)  
7.30 Football. Highlights of this afternoon's UEFA cup first round, second leg match in Moscow between Torpedo Moscow and Manchester United (487)  
8.00 The Bill. Starring the Glasshouse. A low-key undercover operation against drug dealers in a local estate pub takes an unpleasant turn. (Orade) (7900)  
8.30 Men Behaving Badly. Simon Nye's comedy series about two bachelor flat-mates and their attempts to attract the opposite sex. Starring Martin Clunes and Neil Morrissey with Leslie Ash and Caroline Quentin as their long-suffering upstairs neighbours. (Orade) (5) (5771)  
9.00 Boom. Michael Elphick stars as the Midlands private detective this week being drawn into danger by a terrified woman. (Cee-fax) (5) (6504)  
10.00 News at Ten. (Orade) (5) Weather (39900) 10.30 Thames News (470455)



Indian mother and child: portrait from Amazonia (10.40pm)

- 10.40 Before Columbus: Rebellion. The last in the documentary series written and presented by Michael Wood on the history of the Indian people of the Americas. (Cee-fax) (527829)  
11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H. Drama serial set in an Australian women's detention centre (186962)  
12.30am Video View presented by Mariella Frostrup. The latest releases reviewed (16634)  
1.30 The Equalizer. McCall helps a diplomat's wife to recover her kidnapped son. Starring Edward Woodward, Lisa Eichhorn and Macaulay Culkin (5) (94721)  
2.30 Donahue. A discussion on how couples can have a more sexual and loving relationship (1748498)  
3.20 60 Minutes. American news magazine (5246905)  
4.10 The Whitebread Road. The World Race. Yachting (7818905)  
5.10 Short Story Theatre: Mark and Donny. The story of two young car thieves (3883672)  
5.30 ITN Morning News (54547). Ends at 6.00

## CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 Cartoons (56813)  
7.00 The Big Breakfast presented by Chris Evans and Gaby Roslin (55564)  
9.00 You Bet Your Life. American quiz show (5) (23349)  
9.30 Schools (42423)  
12.00 Profiles of Nature. Wildlife photographer Bristol Foster captures the life of the rarely-seen red-throated loon (56813)  
12.30 Sesame Street. Entertaining early-learning series (5) (75455)  
1.30 Take 5. For younger viewers (54707)  
2.00 Mister Rossi On the Beach. Animation (59059788)  
2.15 The Labour Party Conference. Live coverage of John Smith's first address to Conference as party leader (1654233)  
3.30 Flying Hair. Animation by Poland's Piotr Dumala (4081097)  
3.40 The Three Stooges in Gen of a Jam (b/w) (5730184)  
4.00 A Houseful of Plants. Indoor gardening series, presented by Rosella Benjamin and Michael Jordan (5) (Teletext) (726)  
4.30 Fifteen to One. General knowledge knock-out quiz (5) (610)  
5.00 Crawshaw Paints on Holiday. Alwyn Crawshaw paints, trains, and the market square of Solfer in Majorca (5958)  
5.30 If Wishes Were Horses. Series following a group of children of mixed ability learning to ride (5) (962)  
6.00 Desmond's. Comedy series set in a Peckham barber's. Starring Norman Beaton (5) (Teletext) (5) (875)  
6.30 Roseanne. Wise-cracking blues colour comedy starring Roseanne Arnold and John Goodman (5) (Teletext) (455)  
7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) Weather (8962)  
8.00 Blame It on the Badger. Chris Kelly narrates Maurice Tibbles's acclaimed film about Britain's best-known yet least seen mammal. (Teletext) (5542)  
8.30 Check Out 92. The consumer affairs programme examines this week the important question of whether Britain's beer drinkers are getting a fair deal from the brewers (5) (1349)  
9.00 Top Autumn: Andy Goldsworthy. A look at the work of the sculptor who uses leaves, sticks and rocks to capture the rhythms of time and place (5) (4146)

Passion and deceit: Charlotte Rampling, Iain Glen (10.00pm)

- 10.00 Film on Four: Paris By Night (1990).  
● CHOICE: A very enlightening film this, with Charlotte Rampling excellent as Clara Fajal, the Thatcherite Sun-Air with a hard-line morality which only becomes blurred at the edges in reference to herself. Directed by David Hare, the feature has the same air of grim realism punctuated by surprising tragedy as his Wetherby. This time the shock comes when Clara, on business in Paris, efficiently dispatches the man who is blackmailing her by pushing him into the Seine. Her subsequent affair with a passionate young entrepreneur (Iain Glen) prompts more deceit and forces her to confront her own usually buried emotions. There are good performances all round with Michael Gambon brilliant as Clara's drink-soaked husband, but the pace is held up by stilted dialogue and choppy editing. (Cee-fax) (249813)  
11.55 Empty Nest. Comedy series starring Richard Mulligan as a widowed medical man (251542)  
12.25am Goya. The fifth of a six-part drama about the life and works of the celebrated Spanish painter (5) (Teletext) (8394160)  
1.25 Film: The Calendar (1948, b/w) starring John McCallum and Greta Gynt. Horsing around, based on a play by Edgar Wallace, directed by Arthur Crabtree (55924). Ends at 2.59

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## SATellite

- SKY ONE  
● Via the Astra and Maropolo satellites  
6.00am The 100th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings (56862726) 8.00 Mrs. Butler (56862726) 8.30 Playboys (56862726) 9.00 The Pyramid Game (73882) 10.00 Let's Make a Deal (56813) 10.30 The Bold and the Beautiful (56455) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (51071) 12.00 St. Elsewhere (56165) 1.00pm E Street (55523) 1.30 Geraldo (57788) 2.30 Another World (259159) 3.15 The Brady Bunch Movie (56165) 4.00 The 100th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings (56862726) 5.00 Facts of Life (7392) 5.30 Different Strokes (4707) 6.00 Abby Cadabby (56165) 6.30 The 100th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings (56862726) 7.00 The 100th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings (56862726) 8.00 The 100th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings (56862726) 9.00 The 100th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings (56862726) 10.00 The 100th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings (56862726) 11.00 The 100th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings (56862726) 12.00 The 100th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings (56862726) 1.00am The 100th Anniversary of the 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